

1877.

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

GRAND CHAPTER

OF

Royal Arch Masons of Canada,

AT ITS

TWENTIETH ANNUAL CONVOCATION,

HELD IN THE

*MASONIC HALL, RICHMOND STREET, CITY OF
LONDON,*

On Wednesday, the 8th day of August, A. D. 1877, A. I. 2407,
A. L. 5877,



ORDERED TO BE READ IN ALL CHAPTERS AND PRESERVED.

ADDRESS :—*Fred. J. Menet, Toronto, Ont., Grand Z.*

Daniel Spry, Toronto, Ont., Grand Scribe E.

TORONTO :

Patterson's Steam Printing and Publishing House, 48 King St. East.

1877.

Grand Chapter of Canada.

PROCEEDINGS.

At an Emergency Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada, held in the Masonic Hall, Toronto Street, in the City of Toronto, on Friday, the 2nd day of February, A.D. 1877, A. I. 2407.

GRAND OFFICERS PRESENT.

M. E. Comp.	L. H. Henderson, Belleville,	Grand Z.	} Grand Council
R. " "	F. J. Menet, Toronto,	" H.	
" " "	C. L. Beard, Woodstock,	" J.	
<i>On the Throne.</i>			

R. E. Comp.	Daniel Spry, Toronto,	"	Scribe E.
" " "	Thomas Sargent, Toronto, as	"	Scribe N.
" " "	George Creggan, Kingston,	"	Prin. Soj.
" " "	David McLellan, Hamilton,	"	Treasurer.
" " "	Joshua G. Burns, Toronto,	"	Registrar.
" " "	Donald McPhie, Hamilton, as	"	1st Asst. Soj.
" " "	James O'Connor, London, as	"	2nd do.
" " "	James Wilson, Toronto, as	"	Sword Br'r.
V. " "	George Watson, Toronto,	"	Stand. "
" " "	John Fisher, Eglington,	"	Direc. of C.
" " "	John O'Donnell, Peterboro', as	"	Organist.
" " "	E. Peplow, Jr., Port Hope, as	"	Pursuivant.
" " "	James Smith, Belleville, as	"	Steward.
" " "	J. D. Henderson, Colborne, as	"	"
V. " "	James Wilson, Ottawa, as	"	"
" " "	Wm. Panton, Milton, as	"	"
" " "	John L. Dixon, as	"	Janitor.

GRAND SUPERINTENDENTS OF DISTRICTS.

R. E. Comp.	A. G. Smyth, London,	Grand Supt. London Dist.
" "	A. W. Francis, Woodstock,	" Wilson "
" "	C. L. F. Campbell, Stratford	" Huron "
" "	W. D. Hepburn, Preston,	" Wellington "
" "	Richard Brierley, Hamilton,	" Hamilton "
" "	R. J. Hovenden, Toronto,	" Toronto "
" "	J. H. Helm, Port Hope,	" Ontario "
" "	W. M. Somerville, Ottawa,	" Central "

PAST GRAND OFFICERS.

M. E. Comp.	James Seymour,	Past Grand Z.
" "	S. Bickerton Harman,	Past Grand Z.
R. "	A. A. Stevenson,	Past Grand H.
" "	W. H. Weller,	Past Grand H.
" "	J. K. Kerr,	Past Grand J.
" "	Daniel Spry,	Past Grand Supt.
" "	James O'Connor,	Past Grand "
" "	Peter Begg,	Past Grand "
" "	Donald Ross,	Past Grand "
" "	Isaac F. Toms,	Past Grand "
" "	Thomas C. Macnabb,	Past Grand "
R. "	James B. Nixon,	Past Grand S. N.
" "	Geo. C. Patterson,	Past Grand P. S.
" "	James Wilson,	Past Grand S. B.

PAST 1ST PRINCIPALS.

M. E. Comp.	James Seymour.	M. E. Comp.	S. B. Harman.
R. "	L. H. Henderson.	R. "	George Creggan.
" "	R. J. Hovenden.	" "	James O'Connor.
" "	Fred J. Menet.	" "	A. G. Smyth.
" "	David McLellan.	" "	Richard Brierley.
" "	Daniel Spry.	" "	G. C. Patterson.
" "	Joshua G. Burns.	" "	A. M. McMillan.
V. "	James Wilson.	R. "	C. L. Beard.
R. "	A. A. Stevenson.	" "	C. L. T. Campbell.
" "	Henry Macpherson.	" "	Isaac F. Toms.

R. E. Comp.	Donald Ross.	V. E. Comp.	John O'Donnell.
" "	J. H. Helm.	R. "	W. D. Hepburn.
" "	Peter Begg.	" "	J. D. Henderson.
" "	Thos C. McNabb.	R. "	W. H. Weller.
" "	Arthur L. Willson.	V. "	John Fisher.
V. "	T. F. Blackwood.	" "	Isaac P. Willson.
" "	James Willson.	" "	A. McMillan.

A constitutional number of Chapters being represented by their qualified officers, the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada, was opened in *Ample form* at two o'clock p. m.

The Committee on Credentials of Representatives reported the names of the following Companions present, and entitled to seats in Grand Chapter.

No. 1. ANCIENT FRONTENAC CHAPTER, KINGSTON.

R. E. Comp.	Geo. Creeggan,	P. Z.
" "	Sam'l Woods,	Z.
V. "	James Wilson,	P. Z.

No. 2. THE HIRAM CHAPTER, HAMILTON.

V. E. Comp.	Gavin Stewart,	Z.
" "	J. M. Meakins,	J.

No. 3. ST. JOHN'S CHAPTER, LONDON.

R. E. Comp.	James O'Connor,	P. Z.
-------------	-----------------	-------

No. 4. CHAPTER OF ST. ANDREW AND ST. JOHN, TORONTO.

M. E. Comp.	Samuel B. Harman,	P. Z.
R. "	R. J. Hovenden,	Z.
" "	Fred. J. Menet,	P. Z.
" "	J. K. Kerr,	P. G. J.
" "	James Wilson,	P. Z.
" "	C. W. Brown,	P. H.

No. 5. ST. GEORGE'S CHAPTER, LONDON.

R. E. Comp.	A. G. Smyth,	P. Z.
-------------	--------------	-------

No. 6. ST. JOHN'S CHAPTER HAMILTON.

V. E. Comp.	Donald McPhie,	Z.
R. " "	D. McLellan,	P. Z.
" " "	Richard Brierley,	P. Z.
" " "	J. J. Mason,	P. Z.

No. 7. MOIRA CHAPTER BELLEVILLE.

M. E. Comp.	L. H. Henderson,	P. Z.
" "	Wm. Smith,	Z.

No. 8. KING SOLOMON'S CHAPTER, TORONTO.

R. E. Comp.	J. G. Burns,	Z.
V. " "	Geo. Watson,	H.
" "	James S. Lovell,	J.
R. " "	Daniel Spry,	P. Z.
" " "	Jas. B. Nixon,	P. Z.
" " "	Thomas Sargant,	P. Z.
" " "	Fred. J. Menet,	P. Z.
" " "	David McLellan,	P. Z.
" " "	Geo. C. Patterson,	P. Z.
" " "	Wm. Watson,	P. H.
V. " "	W. C. Morrison,	P. H.

No. 12. CATARAQUI CHAPTER, KINGSTON.

R. E. Comp.	Geo. Creeggan,	P. Z.
" "	A. McMillan,	P. Z.
" "	Thos. Seale,	J.

No. 15. WAWANOSH CHAPTER, SARNIA.

E. Comp.	E. A. Vidal,	J.
----------	--------------	----

No. 16. CARLETON CHAPTER, OTTAWA.

V. E. Comp.	James Wilson,	P. Z.
R. " "	W. M. Somerville,	P. Z.

No. 18. OXFORD CHAPTER, WOODSTOCK.

R. E. Comp.	C. L. Beard,	P. Z.
-------------	--------------	-------

No. 19. MOUNT MORIAH CHAPTER, ST. CATHARINES.

M. E. Comp.	James Seymour,	P. Z.
-------------	----------------	-------

- No. 21. CARNARVON CHAPTER, MONTREAL.
R. E. Comp. A. A. Stevenson, P. Z.
- No. 24. TECUMSETH CHAPTER, STRATFORD.
R. E. Comp. C. L. T. Campbell, M. D., Z.
- No. 26. ST. MARK'S CHAPTER, TRENTON.
R. E. Comp. Peter Begg, P. Z.
- No. 27. MANITOU CHAPTER, COLLINGWOOD.
V. E. Comp. Henry McPherson, P. Z.
- No. 28. PENTALPHA CHAPTER, OSHAWA.
R. E. Comp. Daniel Spry, P. Z. Proxy.
- No. 30. M'CALLUM CHAPTER, DUNNVILLE.
M. E. Comp. James Seymour, P. Z.
- No. 30. HURON CHAPTER, GODERICH.
R. E. Comp. Isaac F. Toms, P. Z.
- No. 31. PRINCE EDWARD CHAPTER, PICTON.
R. E. Comp. Donald Ross, Z.
- No. 36. CORINTHIAN CHAPTER, PETERBOROUGH.
V. E. Comp. J. O'Donnell, Z.
- No. 37. VICTORIA CHAPTER, PORT HOPE.
R. E. Comp. J. H. Helm, Z.
" " E. Peplow, Jr., H.
- No. 40. GUELPH CHAPTER, GUELPH.
R. E. Comp. W. D. Hepburn, P. Z.
- No. 44. MOUNT SINAI CHAPTER, NAPANEE.
R. E. Comp. Donald Ross, P. Z.

No. 45. EXCELSIOR CHAPTER, COLBORNE.

R. E. Comp.	Peter Begg,	P. Z.
" "	J. D. Henderson,	P. Z.

No. 47. WELLINGTON CHAPTER, CHATHAM.

R. E. Comp.	Thomas C. Macnabb,	P. Z.
M. " "	James Seymour,	P. Z.

No. 48. ST. JOHN'S CHAPTER, COBOURG.

R. E. Comp.	W. H. Weller,	P. Z.
-------------	---------------	-------

No. 54. DE WARRENNE CHAPTER, ST. THOMAS.

R. E. Comp.	A. G. Smyth,	Z. Proxy.
-------------	--------------	-----------

No. 55. NIAGARA CHAPTER, NIAGARA.

M. E. Comp.	James Seymour,	P. Z. Proxy.
-------------	----------------	--------------

No. 56. GEORGIAN CHAPTER, OWEN SOUND.

E. Comp.	Henry Macpherson,	P. Z.
----------	-------------------	-------

No. 57. KING HIRAM CHAPTER, PORT COLBORNE.

E. Comp.	Edwin Smith,	Z. Proxy.
----------	--------------	-----------

No. 58. PEMBROKE CHAPTER, PEMBROKE.

R. E. Comp.	W. M. Somerville,	P. Z. Proxy.
-------------	-------------------	--------------

No. 59. SUSSEX CHAPTER, BROCKVILLE.

R. E. Comp.	W. M. Somerville,	P. Z. Proxy.
-------------	-------------------	--------------

No. 62. YORK CHAPTER, EGLINGTON.

R. E. Comp.	Daniel Spry,	P. Z.
" " "	Thos. Sargent,	P. Z.
V. " "	John Fisher,	P. Z.
" "	A. L. Willson.	P. Z.

No. 64. WILLSON CHAPTER, WELLAND.

E. Comp.	I. P. Willson,	Z.
----------	----------------	----

No. 65. ONTARIO CHAPTER, YORKVILLE.

R. E. Comp.	Fred J. Menet,	P. Z.
" "	C. W. Brown,	Z.
" "	B. Saunders,	H.
" "	T. F. Blackwood,	P. Z.

No. 67. ENTERPRISE CHAPTER, HARRISTON.

E. Comp.	J. D. Henderson,	P. Z. Proxy.
----------	------------------	--------------

No. 68. MAITLAND CHAPTER, MAITLAND.

R. E. Comp.	Daniel Spry,	P. Z. Proxy.
-------------	--------------	--------------

No. 71. PRINCE OF WALES CHAPTER, AMHERSTBURG.

E. Comp.	George Gott,	Z.
----------	--------------	----

No. 72. KEYSTONE CHAPTER. ST. THOMAS.

R. E. Comp.	A. G. Smith,	P. Z. Proxy.
-------------	--------------	--------------

No. 73. ERIE CHAPTER, PORT STANLEY.

R. E. Comp.	A. G. Smyth,	P. Z. Proxy.
-------------	--------------	--------------

No. 74. BEAVER CHAPTER, STRATHROY.

E. Comp.	Jas. Noble,	Z.
----------	-------------	----

No. 75. ST. CLAIR CHAPTER, MILTON.

E. Comp.	W. Panton,	Z.
E. Comp.	James A. Frazer,	J.

No. 76. MOUNT NEBO CHAPTER DRUMMONDVILLE.

E. Comp.	I. P. Willson,	Z. Proxy.
----------	----------------	-----------

No. 77, OCCIDENT CHAPTER TORONTO.

E. Comp.	Jas. Wilson,	Z.
" "	Wm. Watson,	H.
R. " "	R. J. Hovenden,	P. Z.
" "	Daniel Spry,	P. Z.
" "	Thomas Sargant,	P. Z.
" "	Fred. J. Menet,	P. Z.

Communications were received from M. E. Comp. C. D. McDonnell, and others, expressing regret for their absence.

On motion of R. E. Comp. J. G. Burns, Toronto, seconded by E. Comp. James Wilson, Toronto, it was resolved :—

That all Royal Arch Masons in good and regular standing be invited to seats, as visitors, during the session of Grand Chapter.

The M. E. Grand Z., L. H. Henderson, stated, that he had called this Emergency Convocation at the request of a number of Companions, who desired that some immediate proceeding should be taken, in consequence of the Quebec Chapters having met in Convention, on the 12th December, 1876, and organized a Grand Chapter for that province. He would direct the Grand Scribe E. to read all the correspondence and documents which have been received in connection with this important question, and he felt assured that Grand Chapter, would deal with this matter in a manner that would reflect honor and credit upon the Royal Craft in the Dominion of Canada.

The Grand Scribe E. then read :

1st. The following requisition, requesting the Grand Z. to call the emergency Convocation :

To Most Excellent Companion L. H. Henderson, Esquire, Grand Z., Grand Chapter of Canada.

The undersigned Companions, members of the Grand Chapter of which you are the supreme head, having the welfare of the Order at heart, desire to bring under your notice the following facts :—

1st. That at the Annual Convocation, held at the City of Montreal in August last, R. E. Comp. Frank Edgar, of Montreal, was duly elected to the office of Grand J. of the Grand Chapter.

2nd. That R. E. Comp. Edgar not being present at the installation of officers, and not having then declined to accept the office to which he had been elected, it was, in accordance with the usual practice, directed that the installation of R. E. Comp. Edgar should take place in the Chapter of which he is a member.

3rd. That no official information has been received by the Grand Chapter that such installation has taken place.

4th. That R. E. Comp. Edgar having been requested by the Grand Scribe E. to sign the warrants of the Chapter as authorized by the Grand Chapter at its last convocation, has refused to do so, and has declared his refusal to accept the office of Grand J., alleging as a reason therefor his intention to act in conjunction with certain of the members of this Order belonging to the Chapters working in the Province of Quebec, in forming a Grand Chapter for the said Province.

5th. That at the Convocation of the Grand Chapter, held in the City of Ottawa, in October, 1874, the following resolution was adopted, viz.:—

“That permission be given to the Chapters in Quebec to meet for the purpose of considering what action, if any, they may deem it desirable to take towards securing the formation of a Grand Chapter for that Province, and that the M. E. the Grand Z. be authorized to take such action in the matter as he may consider for the best interests of Royal Arch Masonry.”

Having an earnest desire that no complications should arise, which will in the slightest degree tend to mar the harmony at present existing among the Royal Craft, we respectfully petition that you will, upon information received that a meeting has been held for the above mentioned purpose, cause a Special Convocation of Grand Chapter to be held to consider the matter, and adopt such measures as may conduce to the continued prosperity of the Order, and a harmonious and equitable adjustment of all that concerns the general membership of the Order.

Respectfully and fraternally submitted.

FRED. J. MENET, G. H.
THOS. SARGANT, P. G. Supt.
W. C. MORRISON, P. H.
WM. WATSON, Z.
A. J. FIRMAN, P. G. J. G. C., Ireland.
JOSHUA GEO. BURNS, Z. and G. R.
T. F. BLACKWOOD, Z.
J. ERSKINE, Past J.
JAMES ADAMS, P. G. Supt.
JOHN FISHER, Z.
N. GORDON BIGELOW, P. G. J.
H. MACORQUODALE, J.
J. J. MASON, P. Z.
F. R. DESPARD, G. S. N.
DAVID McLELLAN, G. Treas.

SAM. B. HARMAN, P. G. Z.
RICH. J. HOVENDEN, G. Supt., T. D.
JAMES WILSON, Z.
M. M. P. DEAN, J.
JAMES NORRIS, P. Z. and P. G. S. S.
S. LEN. NEAVE, Past J.
JOHN E. MITCHELL, J.
A. S. IRVING, P. J.
CHARLES W. BROWN, H.
J. K. KERR, Past Grand J.
MARCELLUS CROMBIE, P. G. T.
GEO. C. PATTERSON, P. G. Prin. S.
JNO. W. MURTON, P. G. Supt.
RICHARD BRIERLEY, G., Supt.
J. M. GIBSON, Z.

E. MITCHELL, P. G. Supt.

TORONTO, 27th November, 1876.

2nd. The circular summoning the Emergency.

3rd. A copy of the Circular issued by the Companions in Quebec, calling the convention for the organization of a Grand Chapter for that province, as follows :

To the Right Excellent, Very Excellent and Excellent Principals and Past Principals, and Officers and other Companions of the several Chapters of Royal Arch Masons in the Province of Quebec :—

WHEREAS, in the opinion of the subscribers, and of a large and influential number of Royal Arch Masons with whom they have communicated on the subject, the time has now come when, in the interests of Royal Arch Masonry, a Grand Chapter should be formed for the Province of Quebec ;

AND WHEREAS the Grand Chapter of Canada, having in view its obligations and duties in this matter, at its Seventeenth Annual Convocation, held in the Masonic Hall, in the City of Ottawa, on the Fourteenth day of October, A. D. 1874, did resolve, and place upon record in the proceedings of the said Convocation, the following resolution :—

“ Moved by R. E. Companion Daniel Spry, and seconded by R. E. Companion F. J. Menet, and resolved :—

“ That permission be given to the Chapters in Quebec to meet for the purpose of considering what action, if any, they may deem it advisable to take towards securing the formation of a Grand Chapter for that Province ; and that the Most Excellent the Grand Z. be authorized to take such action in the matter as he may consider for the best interests of Royal Arch Masonry.”

THEREFORE, we, the undersigned Royal Arch Masons in good standing, do hereby request all the Chapters in this Province to be duly represented at a Convention to be held in the Royal Albert Chapter Rooms, in the City of Montreal, on Tuesday, the Twelfth day of December next, at Seven o'clock p. m., for the purpose of taking into consideration the present state of Royal Arch Masonry in this Province, and to proceed, if so decided, to the formation of a Grand Chapter for the Province of Quebec.

AND WE DO HEREBY REQUEST all the Chapters to be duly and constitutionally represented at the Convention aforesaid, if practicable, by

all their Principals and Past Principals, for the important object before mentioned.

GEORGE H. BORLASE, Z.

JOHN HAMILTON GRAHAM, Past Z.

Golden Rule Chapter, No. 9.

H. W. WOOD, Past Z. and Grand Supt. E. T. District,

STEPHENS BAKER, Z.

Provost Chapter, No. 14.

ISAAC H. STEARNS, Z., Past Grand H., &c.

T. C. STRATTON, H.

ANGUS GRANT, J.

JAMES T. MCMINN, Past Z.

JOHN HELDER ISAACSON, Past J.

Carnarvon Chapter, No. 21.

THOMAS MILTON, Past Z., Past Grand Superintendent, &c.

WILLIAM JOHNSON, Past Z.

RICHARD HANDSLEY, Past Z.

C. W. WOODFORD, Z.

CHARLES WILLIS, H.

JAMES MARTIN, J.

Mount Horeb Chapter, No. 25.

WILLIAM NIVIN, Past Z.

JOHN MCLEAN, H.

H. A. EARLE, J.

JOHN H. JONES, Past J.

S. R. PARSONS, Past J.

Montreal Chapter, No. 42.

EUGENE M. COPELAND, Z., Past Grand Superintendent, &c.

FRANK EDGAR, Past Z., Past Grand Superintendent, &c.

JAMES JOSEPH BARNARD, Past Z.

HENRY M. ALEXANDER, Past H.

HENRY W. ATWATER, Past H.

ALBERT D. NELSON, H.

CHARLES W. HAGAR, J.

THOMAS K. ALEXANDER, Past J.

Royal Albert Chapter, No. 43.

ALEXANDER MURRAY, Past Z.

JAMES GIBSON, Z.

GEORGE CBAWFORD, H.

W. M. MESURIER, J.

WILLIAM YOUNG, Past H.

St. Charles Chapter, No. 51.

November 15th, 1876.

4th. The official announcement of the formation of said Grand Chapter, as follows :

GRAND CHAPTER OF ROYAL ARCH MASONS OF QUEBEC.

OFFICE OF THE GRAND Z.,

RICHMOND, P. Q., Dominion of Canada,

A. I. 27th Dec., 2406, and A. D. 27th Dec., 1876.

*To the M. E. First Principal and other Officers and Companions
of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada.*

FRATERNAL SALUTATIONS.

M. E. Sir and Beloved Companions :—

I have the honour officially to notify you that on the 12th instant a regularly assembled convention of Royal Arch Masons, duly representing the seven Chapters then working under warrants from the Grand Chapter of Canada, was held in the City of Montreal, and, having taken into careful consideration the condition of Capitular Masonry in their said Province, unanimously and in perfect harmony formed and established a Grand Chapter in and for the Province of Quebec, in accordance with the Ancient Customs, Constitutions and Landmarks of the Order.

The Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Quebec, therefore, hereby sends hearty fraternal salutations to your M. E. Grand Chapter, praying that your Grand Body will be pleased to extend fraternal recognition to, and establish fraternal communication and representation with us as a duly constituted Grand Chapter, holding and entitled to exercise supreme and exclusive Royal Arch Masonic jurisdiction within our said Province of Quebec.

It affords me extreme satisfaction further to inform you, that the formation of the Grand Chapter of Quebec has the concurrence of the M. E. the Grand Chapter of Canada, by permissive resolution passed at its Annual Convocation in 1874.

Heartily wishing your M. E. Grand Chapter ever continued peace and prosperity, and praying that the benediction of the MOST HIGH

may rest upon all faithful Companions throughout the world, I have the honour, with profound regard, to be yours fraternally,

J. H. GRAHAM,

Grand Z. Gr. C. of Quebec.

{ L. S. }

J. T. McMINN,

Grand Scribe E.

5th. A certified copy of the proceedings of the Convention, over which R. E. Comp. T. Milton presided, at which the following resolutions were adopted :

Ex. Comp. Borlase, on behalf of the Committee appointed to prepare resolutions for the consideration and adoption of the Convention, submitted the following preamble and resolutions, to wit :—

PREAMBLE.

“That this Convention, representing a majority of the Chapters of Royal Arch Masons in the Province of Quebec, do hereby recommend that this Convention do at once proceed to the establishment and formation of a Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons in and for the said Province of Quebec, and that the constitution of the Grand Chapter of Canada, be for the present adopted *mutatis. mutandis.*”

RESOLUTIONS.

I. Resolved,—That a Grand Chapter of Quebec be and is hereby declared established, in accordance with the ancient constitutions of the fraternity, and adopting for its government the constitution of the Grand Chapter of Canada, as recommended in the above preamble.

II. Resolved,—That the title of the said Grand Chapter shall be “The Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Quebec.”

III.—Resolved—That the said Grand Chapter do now proceed to the Election of Grand Officers, who shall hold office until their successors are duly elected, invested and installed.”

It was moved by Ex. Comp. Borlase, seconded by Comp. R. E. Steven S. Baker,—

“That the Report of the Committee on Resolutions just read, be received and adopted by this Convention.”

On motion of Ex. Comp. Borlase, seconded by Ex. Comp. Lemesurier, the minutes of the Convention were read and unanimously confirmed.

It was moved by Ex. Comp. Woodford, seconded by Ex. Comp. Gibson,—

“That the Rules and Regulations of the Grand Chapter of Canada having been adopted *mutatis mutandis*, the Convention proceed at once to the Election of Grand Chapter Officers, to hold office until their successors in office be regularly elected, invested and installed, and that the R. E. Chairman do appoint scrutineers to examine the ballot.”

Ex. Comp. R. Murray then declared,—

“That in the name and by the authority of the ancient constitutions of Royal Arch Masonry, and the proceedings of a regularly assembled Convention, convened pursuant to the same, I hereby proclaim this Grand Chapter by the name of ‘The Most Excellent the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Quebec,’ duly constituted, and the several Grand Officers of the same duly installed.”

6th. Telegrams from R. E. Comp. Stearns, certifying that all the Chapters meeting in the province of Quebec, including St. Paul's Chapter, on the Registry of the Grand Chapter of England, had been invited to unite in the movement for the formation of the Grand Chapter.

7th. A return, showing number, name, place of meeting, number of members and amount paid to Grand Chapter by Chapters holding warrants in Quebec from the date of their formation :

No.	NAME.	PLACE OF MEETING.	Number of Members.	Date of last return.	Am't paid by each Ch. to G. C.
9	Golden Rule,	Sherbrooke,	72	1869	319 00
13	Stadacona,	Quebec,	56	1873	515 30
14	Prevost,	Dunham,	50	1875	186 98
17	Dorchester,	Waterloo,	51	1874	323 15
21	Carnarvon,	Montreal,	28	1876	453 40
25	Mount Horeb,	do.	105	1876	717 40
42	Montreal,	do.	40	1875	206 00
43	Royal Albert,	do.	47	1876	250 40
51	St. Charles,	Pt. St. Charles.	35	1875	165 50
			494		\$3127 13

Total number of Members G. C., 1st Aug., 1876, 3,285 & Chapters 69
 Number of Members in Quebec Chapters, 494 " 9
 Present number of Members 2,791 " 60

After which it was moved by M. E. Comp. James Seymour, seconded by R. E. Comp. Fred. J. Menet,

That all the papers relating to the formation of the Grand Chapter of Quebec, be referred to the executive committee for consideration, with instructions to report as speedily as possible during the present session.

The Grand Chapter was called off until 5 o'clock p. m.

EVENING SESSION.

The Grand Chapter resumed labor at 5 o'clock p. m., officers as at the afternoon session.

R. E. Comp. F. J. Menet, on behalf of the Executive Committee, reported the following resolutions, and moved their adoption :

That whereas at a convention of the duly accredited representatives of a majority of the Royal Arch Chapters meeting in the province of Quebec, to which all Chapters in the said Province were invited, resolutions declaring the advisability of at once forming a Grand Chapter for that Province, were unanimously adopted and acted upon, the election and installation of Grand Officers proceeded with, and the formal proclamation of the Grand Chapter for the Province of Quebec was duly made ;

And whereas the said Grand Chapter has officially communicated the above facts to this Grand Chapter, at the same time preferring a request for recognition ;

And whereas the proceedings at the said Convention appear to have been quite regular and in accordance with ancient usage and established customs in connection with the formation of grand bodies, be it therefore resolved

That the Grand Chapter of Canada hereby cordially and fraternally extends recognition to the Grand Chapter of Quebec, and welcomes her as a sister among the Grand Chapters of the world.

After considerable discussion in which M. E. Comp. James Seymour and R. E. Comps. W. H. Weller, Menet, D. McLellan, T. Sargant, J. G. Burns, and others took part, the resolutions submitted by the Committee were unanimously adopted.

The Grand Z. ruled, that as the successor of R. E. Comp. Charles L. Beard had not been installed as Grand J., Companion C. L. Beard remains in office as Grand 3rd Principal J. until the next annual Convocation.



No further business being presented, the Grand Chapter was closed in ample form.

Daniel Spry

Grand Scribe C.

Grand Chapter of Canada.

PROCEEDINGS.

The Twentieth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada, held in the Masonic Hall, Richmond Street, in the City of London, on Wednesday, the 8th day of August, A. D. 1877, A. I. 2407.

GRAND OFFICERS' PRESENT.

M. E. Comp.	L. H. Henderson, Belleville,	Grand Z.	} Grand Council
R. " "	F. J. Menet, Toronto,	" H.	
" " "	C. L. Beard, Woodstock,	" J.	
<i>On the Throne.</i>			

R. E. Comp.	Daniel Spry, Toronto,	"	Scribe E.
" " "	F. R. Despard, Hamilton,	"	Scribe N.
" " "	J. J. Mason, Hamilton,	"	Prin. Soj.
R. " "	David McLellan, Hamilton,	"	Treasurer.
" " "	James B. Nixon, Toronto, as	"	Registrar.
V. " "	Isaac Waterman, London,	"	1st Asst. Soj.
" " "	V. H. Moore, Brockville,	"	2nd do.
" " "	James Smith, Belleville, as	"	Sword Br'r.
V. " "	George Watson, Toronto,	"	Stand. "
" " "	John Fisher, Eglington,	"	Dir. of Cer.
" " "	R. H. Green, Peterboro',	"	Organist.
" " "	H. K. Maitland, Guelph, as	"	Pursuivant.
V. " "	James Corlis, M.D., St. Thomas,	"	Steward.
" " "	Rev. St. Geo. Caufeild, Windsor, as	"	"
" " "	James Wilson, Toronto, as	"	"
" " "	William Caw, Park Hill, M.D.,	"	"
" " "	F. J. Hood,	"	Janitor.

GRAND SUPERINTENDENTS OF DISTRICTS.

R. E. Comp.	A. G. Smyth, London,	Grand Supt. London Dist.
" "	" C. L. T. Campbell, Stratford	" Huron "
" "	" W. D. Hepburn, Preston,	" Wellington "
" "	" R. J. Hovenden, Toronto,	" Toronto "
" "	" J. H. Helm, Port Hope,	" Ontario "
" "	" W. M. Somerville, Ottawa,	" Central "

PAST GRAND OFFICERS.

M. E. Comp.	James Seymour,	Past Grand Z.
R. "	" W. H. Weller,	Past Grand H.
" "	" Henry Robertson,	Past Grand J.
" "	" Daniel Spry,	Past Grand Supt.
" "	" James O'Connor,	Past Grand "
" "	" Chauncey Bennett,	Past Grand "
" "	" Peter Begg,	Past Grand "
" "	" Henry Carlisle,	Past Grand "
" "	" Donald Ross,	Past Grand "
" "	" Thomas Sargant	Past Grand "
" "	" Isaac F. Toms,	Past Grand "
" "	" William Carey	Past Grand "
" "	" Thomas C. Macnabb,	Past Grand "
" "	" James B. Nixon,	Past Grand S. N.
" "	" Geo. C. Patterson,	Past Grand P. S.

GRAND REPRESENTATIVES.

M. E. Comp.	James Seymour,	of Indiana.
R. "	" Henry Robertson,	of Dist. of Columbia.
" "	" "	of New York.
" "	" "	of Mississippi.
" "	" David McLellan,	of Georgia.
" "	" Daniel Spry,	of New Jersey.
" "	" "	of Quebec.
" "	" W. H. Weller,	of Wisconsin.
" "	" Henry Macpherson,	of California.

PAST 1ST PRINCIPALS.

M. E. Comp.	James Seymour.	M. E. Comp.	L. H. Henderson.
" "	J. J. Mason.	R. " "	R. J. Hovenden.
R. " "	James O'Connor.	" " "	Fred J. Menet.
" " "	A. G. Smyth.	" " "	David McLellan.
" " "	R. Hendry.	V. " "	Gavin Stewart.
" " "	F. R. Despard.	" " "	H. A. Baxter.
" " "	William Carey.	" " "	Isaac Waterman.
" " "	John M. Gibson.	" " "	Wm. Panton.
R. " "	W. M. Somerville.	R. " "	Chauncey Bennett
V. " "	M. Gilbranson.	" " "	Geo. Hopkins.
" " "	C. A. Jones.	V. " "	Josiah Corlis.
" " "	James Noble.	R. " "	Thomas Sargant.
R. " "	Daniel Spry.	" " "	G. C. Patterson.
" " "	James Wilson.	" " "	C. L. Beard.
R. " "	James B. Nixon.	" " "	C. L. T. Campbell.
" " "	Hy. Macpherson.	" " "	Isaac F. Toms.
R. " "	Donald Ross.	V. " "	H. G. Summers.
" " "	J. H. Helm.	R. " "	W. D. Hepburn.
" " "	Peter Begg.	V. " "	V. H. Moore.
" " "	Thos C. Macnabb.	R. " "	W. H. Weller.
V. " "	John Fisher.	" " "	Isaac P. Willson.
" " "	James Wilson.	" " "	A. McMillan.
" " "	John Gibson.		

A constitutional number of Chapters being represented by their qualified officers, the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada, was opened in *Ample form* at twelve o'clock noon.

R. E. Comp. Peter Begg, from the Committee on Credentials of Representatives, reported that there were eighty-one Chapters on the roll of Grand Chapter, of which number fifty-four were represented by the following Companions who were present, and entitled to seats in Grand Chapter.

No. 1. ANCIENT FRONTENAC CHAPTER, KINGSTON.

R. E. Comp. R. Hendry, Jr., P. Z. Proxy.

No. 2. THE HIRAM CHAPTER, HAMILTON.

V. E. Comp.	Gavin Stewart,	Z.
R. " "	F. R. Despard,	P. Z.

No. 3. ST. JOHN'S CHAPTER, LONDON.

E. Comp.	Thomas H. Tracey,	Z.
R. " "	James O'Connor,	P. Z.

No. 4. CHAPTER OF ST. ANDREW AND ST. JOHN, TORONTO:

R. " "	Fred. J. Menet,	P. Z.
" " "	R. J. Hovenden,	P. Z.
" " "	C. W. Brown,	P. H.
" " "	B. Saunders,	P. J.

No. 5. ST. GEORGE'S CHAPTER, LONDON.

E. Comp.	R. Lewis,	Z.
" "	M. D. Dawson,	H.
V. " "	H. A. Baxter,	P. Z.
R. " "	W. Carey,	P. Z.
V. " "	I. Waterman,	P. Z.
R. " "	A. G. Smyth,	P. Z.

No. 6. ST. JOHN'S CHAPTER HAMILTON.

V. E. Comp.	Donald McPhie,	Z.
" "	W. M. Gibson,	H.
R. " "	David McLellan,	P. Z.
" "	J. J. Mason,	P. Z.
" "	J. M. Gibson,	P. Z.
" "	W. Panton,	P. Z.

No. 7. MOIRA CHAPTER BELLEVILLE.

E. Comp.	Wm. Smith,	Z.
M. " "	L. H. Henderson,	P. Z.

No. 8. KING SOLOMON'S CHAPTER, TORONTO.

V. E. Comp.	Geo. Watson,	Z.
" "	Daniel McDonald,	H.
" "	James S. Lovell,	J.
R. " "	Daniel Spry,	P. Z.

R. E. Comp.	Fred. J. Menet,	P. Z.
" "	" David McLellan,	P. Z.
" "	" Jas. B. Nixon,	P. Z.
" "	" Thomas Sargent,	P. Z.

No. 12. CATARAQUI CHAPTER, KINGSTON.

R. E. Comp.	Robert Hendry, Jr.,	P. Z.
-------------	---------------------	-------

No. 15. WAWANOSH CHAPTER, SARNIA.

E. Comp.	E. A. Vidal,	H.
" "	" E. Bassett,	J.

No. 16. CARLETON CHAPTER, OTTAWA.

R. E. Comp.	W. M. Somerville,	P. Z.
-------------	-------------------	-------

No. 18. OXFORD CHAPTER, WOODSTOCK.

E. Comp.	Thos. D. Watson,	J.
R. " "	" C. L. Beard,	P. Z.

No. 19. MOUNT MORIAH CHAPTER, ST. CATHARINES.

M. E. Comp.	James Seymour,	P. Z.
R. " "	" Henry Carlisle,	P. Z.

No. 23. EZRA CHAPTER, PRESCOTT.

E. Comp.	J. Scott,	H.
R. " "	" Chauncey Bennett,	P. Z.

No. 24. TECUMSETH CHAPTER, STRATFORD.

R. E. Comp.	C. L. T. Campbell, M. D.,	Z.
" "	" J. Baker,	J.
" "	" Jno. Gibson,	P. Z.

No. 26. ST. MARK'S CHAPTER, TRENTON.

R. E. Comp.	Peter Begg,	P. Z.
-------------	-------------	-------

No. 27. MANITOU CHAPTER, COLLINGWOOD.

R. E. Comp.	Henry Robertson,	P. Z.
" "	" Henry McPherson,	P. Z.

- No. 28. PENTALPHA CHAPTER, OSHAWA.
V. E. Comp. J. Gilbranson, P. Z.
- No. 30. HURON CHAPTER, GODERICH.
R. E. Comp. Isaac F. Toms, P. Z.
- No. 31. PRINCE EDWARD CHAPTER, PICTON.
R. E. Comp. Donald Ross, P. Z.
- No. 32. WATERLOO CHAPTER, GALT.
E. Comp. A. H. McKay, H.
- No. 34. SIGNET CHAPTER, ORILLIA.
V. E. Comp. H. J. Summers, P. Z. Proxy.
- No. 35. KEYSTONE CHAPTER, WHITBY.
E. Comp. Geo. Hopkins, P. Z.
" " C. A. Jones, P. Z.
- No. 36. CORINTHIAN CHAPTER, PETERBORO'.
V. E. Comp. R. H. Green, Z.
- No. 37. VICTORIA CHAPTER, PORT HOPE.
R. E. Comp. J. H. Helm, Z.
- No. 40. GUELPH CHAPTER, GUELPH.
R. E. Comp. W. D. Hepburn, P. Z.
" " H. K. Maitland, P. Z.
- No. 44. MOUNT SINAI CHAPTER, NAPANEE.
R. E. Comp. Donald Ross, P. Z.
- No. 45. EXCELSIOR CHAPTER, COLBORNE.
R. E. Comp. Peter Begg, Z.
- No. 46. ST. JAMES CHAPTER, ST. MARY'S.
E. Comp. James Wilson, P. Z. Proxy.

No. 47. WELLINGTON CHAPTER, CHATHAM.

	E. Comp.	Michael Houston,	Z.
R.	"	" Thomas C. Macnabb,	P. Z.
M.	"	" James Seymour,	P. Z.

No. 48. ST. JOHN'S CHAPTER, COBOURG.

R. E. Comp.	W. H. Weller,	P. Z.
-------------	---------------	-------

No. 50. SAUGEE CHAPTER, WALKERTON.

R. E. Comp.	W. D. Hepburn,	P. Z. Proxy.
-------------	----------------	--------------

No. 54. DE WARRENNE CHAPTER, ST. THOMAS.

E. Comp.	R. Mackay.	Z.
----------	------------	----

No. 55. NIAGARA CHAPTER, NIAGARA.

M. E. Comp.	James Seymour,	P. Z. Proxy.
-------------	----------------	--------------

No. 56. GEORGIAN CHAPTER, OWEN SOUND.

E. Comp.	Henry Macpherson,	P. Z.
----------	-------------------	-------

No. 58. PEMBROKE CHAPTER, PEMBROKE.

R. E. Comp.	W. M. Somerville,	P. Z.
-------------	-------------------	-------

No. 59. SUSSEX CHAPTER, BROCKVILLE.

V. E. Comp.	V. H. Moore, M. D.,	Z.
-------------	---------------------	----

No. 61. GRANITE CHAPTER, PERTH.

V. E. Comp.	V. H. Moore, M. D.,	P. Z. Proxy.
-------------	---------------------	--------------

No. 62. YORK CHAPTER, EGLINGTON.

R. E. Comp.	Daniel Spry,	P. Z.
"	" James B. Nixon,	P. Z.
"	" Thos. Sargent,	P. Z.
V.	" John Fisher,	P. Z.

No. 63. HAVELOCK CHAPTER, LUCKNOW.

R. E. Comp.	Isaac F. Toms,	P. Z.
-------------	----------------	-------

No. 64.

WILLSON CHAPTER, WELLAND.

M. E. Comp. James Seymour,

P. Z. Proxy.

No. 65.

ONTARIO CHAPTER, YORKVILLE.

E. Comp. C. W. Brown,

Z.

" " B. Saunders,

J.

R. " " Fred J. Menet,

P. Z.

No. 68.

MAITLAND CHAPTER, MAITLAND.

E. Comp. John Moore,

J.

No. 69.

GRIMSBY CHAPTER, GRIMSBY.

E. Comp. W. M. Gibson,

P. H.

" " J. J. Mason,

P. Z.

No. 72.

KEYSTONE CHAPTER, ST. THOMAS.

V. E. Comp. Josiah Corlis,

P. Z.

No. 73.

ERIE CHAPTER, PORT STANLEY.

E. Comp. Robt. Mackay,

Z. Proxy.

No. 74.

BEAVER CHAPTER, STRATHROY.

E. Comp. Jas. Noble,

Z.

" " J. M. Banghart,

H.

No. 75.

ST. CLAIR CHAPTER, MILTON.

E. Comp. W. Panton,

Z.

" " W. M. Gibson,

P. H.

" " J. J. Mason,

P. Z.

No. 76.

MOUNT NEBO CHAPTER DRUMMONDVILLE.

M. E. Comp. James Seymour,

P. Z.

No. 77,

OCCIDENT CHAPTER TORONTO.

E. Comp. Jas. Wilson,

Z.

R. " " Daniel Spry,

P. Z.

" " " Fred. J. Menet,

P. Z.

" " " Thomas Sargent,

P. Z.

U. D. PARKHILL CHAPTER, PARKHILL.

E. Comp. William Caw, M. D., Z.

U. D. ORIENT CHAPTER, DON MOUNT.

R. E. Comp.	Daniel Spry,	P. Z.
" "	F. J. Menet,	P. Z.
V. "	G. Watson,	P. Z.
R. "	J. B. Nixon,	P. Z.
" "	James Wilson,	P. Z.
R. "	Thomas Sargent,	P. Z.

U. D. ARK CHAPTER, WINDSOR.

E. Comp. Rev. St. George Caufeild, Z.

U. D. ST. MARK'S CHAPTER, ST. ANDREW'S, N. B.

R. E. Comp. Daniel Spry, P. Z. Proxy.

All of which is fraternally submitted,

PETER BEGG,	} <i>Committee.</i>
H. G. SUMMERS,	
JAMES O'CONNOR,	

On motion of R. E. Comp. Peter Begg, seconded by V. E. Comp. H. G. Summers, the report of the Committee on the Credentials of Representatives was received and adopted.

On motion of R. E. Comp. J. B. Nixon, Toronto, seconded by R. E. Comp. David McLellan, Hamilton, it was resolved :—

That all Royal Arch Masons in good and regular standing be invited to seats, as visitors, during the session of Grand Chapter.

The Grand Scribe E. commenced to read the proceedings of the nineteenth Annual Convocation, held in Montreal, on the 9th August, 1876, and of the Emergency Convocation, held in Toronto, on the 2nd February, 1877, when it was moved by R. E. Comp. F. J. Menet, Toronto, and seconded by R. E. Comp. Donald Ross, Picton, and resolved :—

That as the proceedings of the last Annual Convocation, held on the 8th August, and the Emergency Convocation of the 2nd February, have been printed, and copies thereof sent to all Chapters under this jurisdiction, the recorded minutes thereof be considered as read, and the same be now confirmed.

The M. E. Grand Z. then read the following address to the Companions assembled in Annual Convocation.

ADDRESS.

*To the Most Excellent Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons
of Canada,*

GREETING :—

COMPANIONS, Time, like an ever rolling stream, has by its evolutions brought us to our twentieth Annual Convocation. We are here to-day to express gratitude to our Divine Benefactor for past prosperity ; to ask him for wisdom, to devise plans for the present, and give utterance to our unwavering confidence in the future ; that He who has led us in all our ways will continue to guide us to greater prosperity and usefulness.

Before, however, submitting for inspection and consideration, any occurrences which have transpired since last we met, I think it would not be inappropriate at this time to take a retrospective view of the past twenty years, since Hiram Royal Arch Chapter, Hamilton, St. John's Royal Arch Chapter, London, and St. John's Royal Arch Chapter, Hamilton, assembled together in January, 1857, and formed this Grand Chapter. The rapid progress which Masonry has made in Canada during that period, is an indication of the wisdom and foresight of the Companions who laid the foundation of the Masonic Grand Bodies in this Dominion.

While Masonry has been marching onwards, clear as the sun, fair as the moon, smoothing discords, healing differences, uniting opposing forces, and like a messenger of peace, spreading harmony

and prosperity everywhere ; it has been playing no unimportant part in the " great drama of life."

What strides our beloved land has made, socially, morally and politically, during the years that have passed away. Twenty years ago, this, the first Grand Chapter in British North America, was struggling feebly into life, with but three Subordinate Chapters ; a weak membership, and an insignificant revenue. To-day we number *seventy* Subordinate Chapters on our roll, (after omitting those who have withdrawn to form the Grand Chapters of Nova Scotia and Quebec,) a large and increasing membership, and a respectable revenue. In addition to this, prosperous Grand Chapters exist in the provinces of Nova Scotia and Quebec.

Twenty years ago, Canada comprised the present provinces of Quebec and Ontario, but by the act of Confederation, our wide Dominion of to-day spreads from sea to sea—a vast and almost boundless continent, peopled by prosperous and united races and possessing one of the best forms of government in the world. Whilst we are thus prosperous and happy, other countries are convulsed to their centres by revolutions and reforms, but we have peace within our gates, and prosperity within our borders.

Reviewing these circumstances, I feel assured that while you rejoice with me over our material and moral progress, you will also render an undivided tribute of praise to Him who thrust into the vineyard of Masonry, husbandmen endowed with wisdom to comprehend, judgment to define, and ability to enforce our time-honored precepts and principles, so that we, the sons of such sires, may to-day go forth as reapers of their husbandry, and thrust in the sickle, for lo " the fields are already white unto the harvest."

I am profoundly grateful, to the great disposer of events, that I have not to report to you the death, in this jurisdiction, of any of our prominent leaders during the past year. Our ranks are unbroken, no voice of mourning arises from the fall of any of the vanguard.

Before proceeding, however, to a review of my official acts, I cannot but pay a tribute of respect to one whose loss we deplore,

and whose memory we revere—whose name is a household word in the Masonic world. I refer to the late Companion George Frank Gouley, Grand Secretary of the Grand Chapter of Missouri, and our Representative near that Grand Body; who was one of the victims of the terrible conflagration at the Southern Hotel, St. Louis, on April 10th, 1877. His sudden and terrible death cast a gloom over the hearts of thousands of Masons on this Continent. He was widely known and deeply beloved, as a Masonic writer he was recognized as a keen reasoner; and well versed in and possessed of a thorough knowledge of all the grades of Masonry. His death is a great loss to the Grand Chapter of Missouri, to which Grand Chapter we, to-day, extend our heartfelt sympathy.

GRAND CHAPTER OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

At the last Annual Convocation of Grand Chapter, I laid before you the correspondence that had taken place with the Grand Chapter of the District of Columbia, with reference to the difficulty which had arisen, regarding our representative near that Grand Chapter, and on the 8th of August, 1876, the following communication was received:

WASHINGTON, D. C.,
August 8th, 1876.

R. E. SIR AND COMPANION,

In answer to your letter of July 22nd, in regard to revoking the commission of Comp. Mason, I have to inform you that I submitted the same to our M. E. Grand H. Priest, and he requested me to say that so far as he is concerned, there is no unpleasant feeling between Comp. Mason and himself, but that the most friendly relations exist, nor does he desire any change. He thinks the Report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence *adopted by this Grand Chapter*, sufficiently explicit, and will let the matter rest with the Grand Z.

Respectfully and fraternally,

C. W. HANCOCK,
Grand Secretary.

R. P. STEPHENS, ESQ.,
G. S. E., Toronto, Canada.

I was then of opinion that the matter was finally closed, but subsequently I received a letter from R. Ex. Comp. J. E. Mason, dated 2nd December, tendering his resignation as our representative, as he was about to remove from the jurisdiction I then directed our Grand Scribe to send the following communication :

GRAND SCRIBE E's OFFICE,
Toronto, 23rd Dec'r, 1876.

C. W. HANCOCK, ESQ.,
Grand Secretary, Washington,

DEAR SIR AND R. EX. COMPANION :

I am instructed by our M. Ex. Grand Z. Henderson, to inform you that R. Ex. Comp. J. E. Mason, has resigned his commission as representative of the Grand Chapter of Canada, near the Grand Chapter of the District of Columbia, in consequence of his removal from the jurisdiction, and I am to request your M. E. Grand High Priest to be good enough to favor us with the name of a Companion whose appointment, as our representative, would be acceptable to your Grand Chapter.

Yours fraternally,

(Signed) DANIEL SPRY,
Grand Scribe E.

Near the end of December, the following communication was received by the Grand Scribe, which had evidently been delayed by being addressed to R. E. Comp. Stephens :

WASHINGTON, DEC. 18th, 1876.

RIGHT EXCELLENT COMPANION,

I have been directed by the Grand R. A. Chapter of the District of Columbia, to inform you that the name of Comp. John Edwin Mason has been stricken from the list of Grand Representatives.

Respectfully and fraternally,

(Signed) C. W. HANCOCK,
Grand Secretary.

R. P. STEPHENS, ESQ.,
R. E Grand Sec'y, Toronto, Ont.

To which I caused the following reply to be sent :

GRAND SCRIBE E's OFFICE,

Toronto, 2nd January, 1877.

C. W. HANCOCK, ESQ.

Grand Secretary, Washington, D. C.,

DEAR SIR AND R. E. COMPANION,

Your favor of the 18th ulto., addressed to my predecessor, R. E. Comp. Stephens, only reached me yesterday, and I hasten to acknowledge its receipt, and to ask you to favor me with such information as you may consider it proper to give, regarding the action of your Grand Chapter, in striking the name of Comp. J. E. Mason from the list of Grand Representatives. On the 11th ulto., I received a communication, dated 2nd December, from Comp. Mason, tendering his resignation as our representative near the Grand Chapter of the District of Columbia, which M. E. Comp. Henderson, Grand Z., instructed me to accept, and to write you asking for the name of a Companion whose appointment as the representative of the Grand Chapter of Canada would be acceptable to your Grand Chapter. In accordance with those instructions and in perfect good faith, I addressed you my letter of the 28th ulto., both the Grand Z. and myself being at that time in utter ignorance of the action of your Grand Chapter. After the receipt of your letter of the 8th August, last, which I published in our proceedings, we were of the opinion that this unpleasant difficulty had been satisfactorily adjusted, and it will be a source of deep regret and disappointment to Grand Chapter to learn that such is not the case. Awaiting your reply,

I am very fraternally yours,

(Signed) DANIEL SPRY,

Grand Scribe E.

To which the following reply was received :

WASHINGTON, D. C. JAN'y 6th, 1877.

DANIEL SPRY, ESQ.,

R. E. Grand Scribe E.

R. E. SIR AND COMPANION,

Yours of January 2nd., received this day, and in reply, I would say that our proceedings are in the hands of the printer, and will be ready for distribution about the 15th of February. I will transmit a copy as soon as they are out.

I am very sorry that I have been unable to reply to your letter of December 28th any sooner, and for seeming neglect would plead a press of business, which rendered it impossible. I have not been able to see our Grand High Priest since the receipt of your first letter, but will do so in a few days, and write you by the last of next week.

Trusting all misunderstandings may be favorably adjusted, and that a fraternal feeling may continue to exist between our respective Grand Bodies.

[L. S.]

I am fraternally,
(Signed) C. W. HANCOCK,
Grand Secretary.

The matter was left in abeyance until 1st of March, when, to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of your representative, I named R. Ex. Comp. Jos. S. McCoy, as our representative; whose appointment was entirely satisfactory to the Grand Chapter of the District of Columbia, and all misunderstandings were thus happily adjusted. I have also appointed M. Ex. Comp. John A. Harris, Past Grand High Priest, as our representative near the Grand Chapter of New Hampshire, and his credentials have been duly forwarded to him. I trust both appointments will be confirmed by Grand Chapter.

DISPENSATIONS.

During the year I have been particularly careful in the granting of dispensations to form new Chapters. A number of applications have been forwarded to me; after very careful inquiry, and the strictest scrutiny into all circumstances, and being properly recommended by the several Grand Superintendents, I granted those whose names and localities are as follows:

"Occident" Chapter	Toronto.
"Park Hill" Chapter.....	Park Hill.
"Orient" Chapter	Don Mount.
"Ark" Chapter	Windsor.

I also received a communication informing me that St. Mark's Chapter, of St. Andrew's, New Brunswick, had surrendered their English warrant, and a petition having been presented to me, I granted a dispensation on the third day of February, 1877, to enable them to continue their work as a Chapter.

This cannot fail to be a source of satisfaction to this Grand Chapter, and no doubt a cordial welcome will be given to this Chapter which has sundered old ties to connect itself with our Grand Body.

These several Chapters are, I am informed, regularly organized and in good working order; and I earnestly recommend Grand Chapter to confirm the same and cause their several warrants to be issued in due course.

I also received an application for a dispensation from several Companions, residents of Lindsay, which will be issued when the Companions comply with the requirements of the constitution.

SISTER GRAND CHAPTERS.

Shortly after the last Convocation of Grand Chapter, I received several communications from Companions residing in the Province of Quebec, informing me that the Companions of that Province desired to form a Grand Chapter of their own. Subsequently I received a circular calling said Convention. See Proceedings of Emergency Convocation, held 2nd February, 1877, page 154.

Some short time afterwards I received a certified copy of their proceedings (see page 156) and the announcement that the following named Companions had been chosen as officers for 1876-77 :

JOHN HAMILTON GRAHAM, of Richmond P.Q.,	M. E. Grand 1st Prin. Z.
GEORGE H. BORLASE, of Montreal, - - -	R. " " 2nd " H.
JAMES DUNBAR, of Quebec, - - - -	" " " 3rd " J.
JAMES T. McMINN, of Montreal, - - -	" " " S. E.
JOHN MCLEAN, of Montreal, - - - -	" " " S. N.
JAMES GIBSON, of Montreal, - - - -	" " " Prin S.
ISAAC HENRY STEARNS, of Montreal, - -	" " " Treas.
CHAS. W. WOODFORD, of Montreal, - -	" " " Reg'r.
JOHN PORTEOUS, of Montreal, - - -	" " " Janitor.

AND AS GRAND SUPERINTENDENTS OF DISTRICTS

THOMAS MILTON, of Montreal, -	R. E. Grand Sup't. Montreal Dist.
W. H. WOED, of Knowlton, -	" " " " East. Town's. Dist.
CHRISTOPHER STAVELY, of Quebec, -	" " " " Quebec Dist.

Upon the receipt of which I directed the Grand Scribe to summon an Emergent Convocation of Grand Chapter, to be held in the City of Toronto, on Friday, the 2nd day of February, 1877, at which Convocation an unanimous and cordial recognition was extended to our Companions of Quebec.

While I am assured that this Grand Chapter feels the sundering of those ties which have so long and so happily united us, and whilst regretting that those who have borne with us the burden and heat of the day should be removed to another sphere of usefulness, yet we earnestly pray that their course may be a prosperous one; and desire that between them and us there may ever exist that cordiality and good-will which has been a distinguishing feature of our fraternal intercourse heretofore. May we stimulate each other to renewed exertion for the good of our beloved order.

I am confident from the character of the Companions who compose the Grand Chapter of Quebec, that the Companions of this Grand Chapter need have no fears of their continued prosperity and ultimate success.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

The annual report on Foreign Correspondence, from the pen of our gifted Chairman of Committee on Foreign Correspondence, R. E. Comp. H. Robertson is prepared with the utmost care.

This report has been read from year to year, and has been received with increasing interest and attention.

The annual report that will be laid before you this year will be found worthy of your consideration, as it has been compiled with that ability that has distinguished these reports heretofore.

FINANCE.

The financial position of Grand Chapter will, as usual, be laid before you, and by which you will observe that I have carried out the instructions of Grand Chapter, and invested \$1,500 in Dominion Stock, which will now increase the amount permanently invested by Grand Chapter to the sum of \$4,500.

I am happy to be able to inform you and Grand Chapter that all the books, registers, &c., of Grand Chapter are posted to date, and are in a thoroughly satisfactory condition.

AMENDMENTS TO CONSTITUTION.

Your attention will be called to the following amendments, of which notice has been given :—

1st. By E. Comp. H. Macpherson :—" That article nine of the constitution be changed so far as relates to the time on which the annual convocation will be held."

2nd. By V. E. Comp. George Watson :—" That article one of Grand Superintendents of Districts be amended, and that the words 'an installed First Principal or' be expunged, and that in lieu thereof the letter A be inserted in said article."

In conclusion, Companions, for the repeated manifestations of confidence, and for the uniform courtesy and kindness which has been extended to me during the past, I would not be unmindful; for they have strengthened my endeavours, and supported my exertions in hours of bereavement and depression. To-day I feel assured of the sympathy and consideration of my Companions of this Grand Chapter, and can only say, that although I have often felt, whilst occupying this high position, that the emblem of authority had fallen into hands not sufficiently strong or skilled to use it, as I could wish; yet the hope that the services which I have endeavoured to render, would in some degree aid our noble cause, has served to stimulate me in the discharge of my duty.

I thank you, Companions, for your forbearance, and I shall ever remember the years during which I have had the high honor of being the official head of this Grand Chapter. They have been years of great pleasure in the intercourse with my Companions, had, in consequence of my position. May all the years of our sojourning here be passed in similar service, for the good of our beloved cause, and the benefit of our Companions, so that when the standard shall fall from nerveless hands, and the Great Reaper whose name is Death, thrusts in his *sickle* keen, may we hear the

summons gladly, and present our work to the Grand Overseer, with confidence that a bright reward awaits us, and finally may wisdom be granted from on high for our present deliberations, and strength for future action.

L. H. HENDERSON,
Grand Z.

It was moved by R. Ex. Comp. F. J. Menet, Grand H., seconded by R. Ex. Comp. C. L. Beard, Grand J., and resolved :

That the address of the M. Ex. Grand Z. be referred to the Executive Committee to report thereon during the present Convocation of Grand Chapter.

The following Reports of the various Grand Superintendents of Districts were presented :

LONDON DISTRICT.

To the Most Excellent Grand Z., Grand Principals, Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada ;

In accordance with the Constitution, I have much pleasure in submitting my Annual Report for the London District, on the condition and working of Capitular Masonry.

There are now, eleven Chapters in this District, and all are working well and prosperous. I have made official visits to nine Chapters, and have much pleasure in reporting the same in a flourishing condition, and presided over by energetic and careful officers. The two Chapters I was not able to visit, are both under the supervision and care of two Past Grand Superintendents. Wawanosh, at Sarnia, and Bruce, at Petrolia.

I have received two applications for new Chapters during the year, viz.: Park Hill Chapter, located at Park Hill; a village on the Grand Trunk Railway, about 31 miles from London, and 45 from Sarnia. After careful enquiry I recommended and forwarded this petition for which a dispensation has been granted. I installed the officers of this Chapter, assisted by R. E. Comp. W.

Carey, V. E. Comp. H. A. Baxter, and the officers of St. George Chapter, No. 5, on the 12th October last. This Chapter has now about 35 members on its roll, and I have great pleasure in strongly recommending it to the most favorable consideration of the Grand Chapter.

In April last, I received and forwarded an application for a new Chapter, to be located at Windsor, under the name of "Ark" Chapter, for which a dispensation has been granted, and on the 28th May, I with the assistance of R. E. Comp. Thos. Macnabb, P. G. S., and V. E. Comp. H. A. Baxter, consecrated this Chapter and installed the officers. On this occasion we had the assistance of a very large number of Royal Arch Masons from the city of Detroit, Michigan, many of high rank in the Royal degree, and they were all highly pleased to have a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, under our Grand Chapter, located at that point; and I am sure that "Ark" Chapter must flourish under the care of Comp. Rev. Dr. Caufeild, and his able staff of officers. Windsor is a place that is admirably situated to support and keep up a flourishing Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, and I have no doubt it will, and therefore recommend that a warrant be issued for the same.

The Chapters in my jurisdiction appear to be all working with harmony and energy.

In conclusion, I thank the officers and Companions for the uniform courtesy shown me during my term of office, and for the assistance always cheerfully rendered me in the discharge of my duties.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

A. G. SMYTH,

Grand Superintendent London District.

LONDON, ONT., Aug. 4th, 1877.

WILSON DISTRICT.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Grand Principals and Ex. Companions of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada.

In accordance with the requirements of the Constitution I have

the honor to submit my report of the condition of Royal Arch Masonry in the Wilson District during the past year.

I regret that I have not been able to visit all the Chapters in the District, but from information I have received it affords me pleasure to report Royal Arch Masonry in this District as in a prosperous condition. I have not received any complaints during my term of office.

I recommended a dispensation to issue for a new election of officers for Harris Chapter, No. 41. The First Principal of said Chapter, after being duly elected at the regular election, and before being installed, had to leave the District. Owing to removal of E. Comp. Sorley, the Companions of this Chapter have lost a zealous and efficient mason. I have to tender my thanks to the Companions of the District for their kindness and courtesy during my official term.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

A. W. FRANCIS,

Grand Superintendent Woodstock District.

WOODSTOCK, August 7th, 1877.

HURON DISTRICT.

To the Most Excellent Z., Officers and Members of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada :

I have the honor to report the Royal Craft in the Huron District to be in a sound condition, though not as active as might be desired.

Owing to personal engagements, as well as to the scattered location of the Chapters in this District, I have not been able to visit them all. During the winter, however, I summoned the Companions to meet me in Stratford for the purpose of Instruction. In response to my call, a number of members attended, not only from this, but from other Districts. This, the first Chapter of Instruction held in this jurisdiction, lasted two days, and I am satisfied that the result was highly beneficial.

In this connection I would urge upon the Grand Chapter the

necessity of taking some steps to place the Craft in possession of the authorized work, either by a Lecturer who shall visit and instruct the Chapters, or by some other suitable plan. Not only is there a great verbal diversity in the work throughout the jurisdiction, but the mystical language itself is in many cases veiled in doubt and confusion.

A few days since I received an application for a Warrant for a Chapter from Companions resident in Wingham, which I now submit for the consideration of the Grand Chapter. The locality is in itself a good one; but there is already a Chapter in Lucknow—Havelock, No. 63—only twelve miles distant, and I do not think it would be advisable to have two Chapters so close to each other in that section of country. Very great caution should be exercised in opening Chapters in small towns and villages. We have now far too many in a struggling condition, which are only sources of weakness to the Royal Craft; and instead of granting additional Warrants it would be better to strengthen the Chapters we now have.

I am inclined to think that Wingham is a better location for a Chapter than Lucknow, and if the Companions of "Havelock" would be willing to have their Chapter removed to the first named village, such a course would be preferable to establishing a new Chapter.

No complaints nor disputes have been brought to my notice during the year, and I have every reason to believe that peace and harmony prevail in the Huron District.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

C. L. T. CAMPBELL,

Grand Superintendent Huron District.

STRATFORD, August 6th, 1877.

WELLINGTON DISTRICT.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z, Grand Principals, Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada:

I have pleasure in reporting that all the Chapters in this District are now in a very flourishing condition.

I have visited all the Chapters in the District, except Elora, No. 49, and installed the officers.

I am very glad to report that Waterloo Chapter, No. 32, Galt, under the direction of their new officers, is now prospering, and that new life and energy appear to have entered the Chapter.

I visited Guelph Chapter, No. 40, Guelph, on the 20th April, and dedicated their new room to Capitular Masonry. The Companions of Guelph deserve great praise for their enterprise in fitting up so fine a room for that purpose, it being second to none in the Dominion.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

W. D. HEPBURN,
Grand Superintendent Wellington District.

PRESTON, August, 1877.

HAMILTON DISTRICT.

*To the Most Excellent the Grand Council, Officers and Companions
of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada :*

I have great pleasure to inform Grand Chapter that Capitular Masonry in this District was never more flourishing. No complaints of any kind have been made to me ; indeed, the most fraternal feeling exists amongst us.

The officers of the St. Clair Chapter were duly installed by me, with the able assistance of the Principals of the Hiram and St. John's Chapters. The St. Clair Chapter is making good progress, and has excellent prospects before it.

Last January, at the request of the Companions of the St. John's Chapter, and on their behalf, I had the pleasure of presenting to, and investing E. Comp. J. M. Gibson with a most beautiful First Principal's Golden Jewel, adorned with Rubies, and bearing a suitable inscription, as a mark of their esteem for him personally, and as a token of their appreciation for his eminent services to the Chapter as First Principal for two years.

I am further pleased to state that all the Chapters in this

District have the regalia and furniture fully covered by Insurance against loss by fire.

I regret my inability to attend the present Convocation through press of other business.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

RICHARD BRIERLEY.

Grand Superintendent Hamilton District.

HAMILTON, August 8th, 1877.

TORONTO DISTRICT.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., the Right Excellent and Very Excellent the Grand Officers, and Excellent Companions of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada ;

In pursuance of the Constitutional requirements, I have the honor to report to you the condition of the Royal Craft in the Toronto District, viz. :

My first official act upon being installed in office, was that of recommending the petition of a number of Companions, praying for a dispensation to open and hold a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons in the West End of the City of Toronto, to be called "Occident Chapter," which the M. Ex. the Grand Z. was pleased to grant ; and on the 28th day of August, assisted by R. Ez. Comp. F. J. Menet, Grand H., R. Ex. Comp. Daniel Spry, Grand S. E., R. Ex. Comp. Thomas Sargent, P. G. S., and R. Ex. Comp. Joshua G. Burns, Grand Registrar, I instituted the above Chapter and installed the officers named in the Dispensation ; subsequently I forwarded the minute book, &c., of the Chapter to the M. Ex. the Grand Z., for his inspection, at the same time recommending that a Warrant of Constitution be granted, "as per resolution of Grand Chapter, passed at the Annual Convocation held in the City of Montreal, on the 9th day of August, 1876," which Warrant the M. Ex. the Grand Z. was pleased to grant ; and I feel much pleasure in reporting to you that "Occident Chapter" is to-day one of the best worked, best furnished, and most prosperous and efficient Chapter in the Toronto District, which is largely due to

the energy, tact and ability of Ex. Comp. James Wilson, the Z. of the Chapter.

On the 13th of December I received an appeal from R. Ex. Comp. R. Ramsay, a member of Signet Chapter, Orillia, against a protest entered by Ex. Comp. E. A. Alport, 3rd Principal of the above Chapter, prohibiting R. E. Comp. Ramsay from having a "seat, voice or vote in Signet Chapter, by reason of his (Comp. Ramsay's) suspension for non payment of dues, by Orillia Lodge, No. 196, Orillia." I thereupon ruled, that the suspension of a Companion by a Craft Lodge for non payment of dues, did not in any way affect his rights and privileges as a Royal Arch Mason, and ordered that the protest entered by Ex. Comp. E. A. Alport, be expunged from the minutes of Signet Chapter, which I trust will meet with your approval.

On the 21st of December I received a petition from the officers and members of Ontario Chapter, No. 65, Yorkville, praying for a dispensation to install the Z. and H. elect of that Chapter, they not being eligible according to the constitution. (The Z. elect, E. Comp. Charles W. Brown, being only Junior Warden of a Craft Lodge, and the H. elect, V. W. Bro. Bernard Saunders, never having filled the chair of J.) From my knowledge of the abilities and high personal worth of those Companions, together with the strong recommendations of M. Ex. Comp. S. B. Harman and R. Ex. Comp. F. J. Menet, I recommended the petition to the favorable consideration of the M. Ex. the Grand Z., who was pleased to grant their request; and on the 10th day of January, assisted by R. Ex. Comps. F. J. Menet, Grand H., Daniel Spry, Grand S. E., Thomas Sargant, P. G. S., and Ex. Comps. Erskine and Wilson, I had the honor of installing the officers. Subsequently I visited the Chapter officially, and have much pleasure in reporting to you that their working is really excellent, and financially and numerically the Chapter is in a prosperous and healthy condition.

On the 15th of January I visited King Solomon's Chapter, No. 8, Toronto, and was present at the installation of officers, which ceremony was performed by R. Ex. Comp. Joshua G. Burns, together with R. Ex. Comps. Spry and Sargant. I afterwards

visited the Chapter to inspect the working of the newly installed officers, and felt very much gratified at the very able manner in which the work was executed on that occasion. Ex. Comps. Watson, McDonald and Lovell, together with the officers of the Chapter, are deserving of the very highest praise for their zeal and proficiency in the discharge of the duties of their respective offices.

St. Andrew and St. John's Chapter, No. 4, Toronto, I have also much pleasure in reporting in a very prosperous and harmonious condition, and gradually adding to their numbers excellent material. At the installation of the officers of this Chapter, I requested as a favor, R. Ex. Comp. F. J. Menet, Grand H., to perform that ceremony, I being about to vacate the chair of Z. The R. Ex. Companion kindly consented, and performed the ceremony in his usual able and courteous manner, and the officers installed on that occasion are working zealously and well for the best interests of the Royal Art.

In the month of February I received a petition from a number of Companions praying for a dispensation to open and hold a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons at "Don Mount," to be called "Orient Chapter," which I recommended and forwarded to the M. Ex. the Grand Z. for his pleasure therein. The dispensation was issued in due time, and the Chapter instituted by R. Ex. Comp. F. J. Menet, Grand H., subsequently a complaint was entered against said Chapter for invading the jurisdiction of the City of Toronto Chapters, and taking material therefrom in contravention of the Constitution. I thereupon summoned the Ex. Z. of Orient Chapter, U. D., to produce the dispensation, together with all books, papers, &c., necessary to an investigation of the complaint, which summons was duly complied with, and on examination I found that the Companions of Orient Chapter claimed to have concurrent jurisdiction with the city Chapters according to the wording of the dispensation which read "Don Mount, city of Toronto. But on making careful enquiry I found that such place had no existence, geographically or otherwise, "Don Mount" being situated in the county of York, outside of the corporate limits of the city of Toronto, and all deeds and conveyances of

property, as well as all maps, plans and surveys of the same being registered in the Registry Office of the county of York. I therefore forwarded all the papers, together with the testimony taken at the investigation, and my own opinion of the case, to the M. Ex. the Grand Z. for his decision, when he ordered that the Companions of Orient Chapter, U. D., either elect to continue as a county organization, or to surrender the dispensation. The first alternative was unanimously adopted by them at the regular meeting in June. I presume they will come before you for a Warrant at this convocation of Grand Chapter.

On the 22nd of May, accompanied by R. Ex. Comps. F. J. Menet and Thomas Sargent, I paid York Royal Arch Chapter, Eglinton, an official visit, and found the Chapter in very fair working order, its membership steadily increasing, and all it requires to make it a first-class Chapter, is the exercise of a little more energy and interest on the part of its members.

On June 1st, I paid a visit to Collingwood, where I was most hospitably received by R. Ex. Comp. Henry Robertson, and the Officers and Companions of Manitou Chapter, No. 27, to whom I owe an apology for giving them such short notice of my coming, (only two hours.) There being no work for that evening, it was decided not to meet, but my arrival placed them under the necessity of assembling under very short notice. It was proposed by the Officers to exemplify the work, but the night was so excessively warm that I declined putting them to that trouble, contenting myself with the opening and closing ceremonies, and examining the books of the Chapter, which were well and orderly kept, and feeling perfectly satisfied that wherever Comps. Robertson, Carpenter and Nettleton had supervision, there, good and accurate work was to be found. I took my leave of those Companions, carrying with me the (to me) happy information, that I was the first Superintendent who had visited them in seven years.

On the 22nd of June, I officially visited Seymour Chapter, No. 38, Bradford, which I found in excellent order, and working well and accurately under Ex. Comp. B. F. Kendall and his efficient officers; I also inspected the records of the Chapter and found them very neat and creditable to the Scribe E. In acknowledging

my obligations, and tendering my thanks to the Companions of this Chapter for the courtesies extended to me during my visit, I can only say that I shall always be most "happy to meet you, sorry to part from you, and happy to meet you all again."

Finally, I am reluctantly compelled to report that there yet remains three Chapters, out of the eleven Chapters in this District, which have not yet been visited, viz.:—Georgian Chapter, No. 56, Owen Sound ; Signet Chapter, No. 34, Orillia ; and Doric Chapter, No. 60, Newmarket.

Regarding Georgian Chapter, No. 56, I had made my arrangements for a visit on the 2nd of May, but a severe attack of sickness confined me to the house for nearly a week at that time, thus preventing me from being with them. This I trust will be a sufficient excuse for my absence on that occasion. With reference to the other two Chapters I am forced to plead business engagements which have kept me closely confined, and I trust that the Companions of those Chapters will accept my apology for my short-comings, and stretch yet a little more that already overstrained garment, the "broad mantle of Masonic charity" to cover my omissions.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

RICHARD J. HOVENDEN,

Grand Superintendent Toronto District.

TORONTO, July 25th, 1877.

ONTARIO DISTRICT.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Canada.

In compliance with the Constitution of Grand Chapter, I beg to submit my report as Grand Superintendent of Royal Arch Masonry in Ontario District for the past year.

Since the last Annual Convocation of Grand Chapter, I have visited most of the Chapters in the District, and I regret I cannot make as pleasing a report as some of my predecessors have done. A number of the Chapters are working very well and are a credit

to the Craft, but there are some who do not come up to that standard that is desirable. This is very much to be deplored for several reasons, and I think a little effort on the part of a few of the Companions to whom I refer would tend in a great measure to bring about a better state of affairs. I trust that whoever may have the honor to occupy next year the office I now hold, will be successful in improving the condition of the two Chapters whose names I don't wish to mention in this report.

In April last I visited Corinthian Chapter in Peterboro, and installed the officers elect, on which occasion I was ably assisted by M. E. Comp. C. D. McDonnell, Past Grand Z. I also attended their annual banquet the same evening, and spent a few pleasant hours, it being quite a success in every respect.

I also installed the officers of St. John's Chapter, in Cobourg, in May, and there met R. E. Comp. W. H. Weller, Past Grand H., who kindly assisted me.

In November last I received a petition, duly signed by a number of Royal Arch Masons, to start a Chapter in Lindsay, which, after due consideration, I recommended, believing as I do this to be a good place to start a Chapter, and that it might be successfully worked if in charge of good officers. I am instructed by R. E. Comp. Grand Scribe E. that the prayer of the petition was granted, but I am not aware that anything further was done in the matter. The present depression in most all kinds of business may have been partly the cause of the Chapter not being started, and if so, I hope the Companions may yet see their way clear to get "Midland Chapter" in good working order.

I am very glad to be able to say that not a single case of Masonic complaint has been brought before me, and I think peace and harmony reign throughout the District.

All of which is fraternally and respectfully submitted.

J. H. HELM,

Grand Superintendent Ontario District.

PORT HOPE, July 24th, 1877.

CENTRAL DISTRICT.

*To the Most Excellent Grand Council, Officers and Companions
of the Grand Chapter of Canada.*

At this our twentieth Annual Convocation I beg to submit this very brief report regarding Capitular Masonry in the Central District for the past year.

On the 8th January, I visited Carleton, No. 16, and installed its officers, examined its minutes, finding them well kept.

On the 31st January, I visited Cataraqui Chapter, Kingston, at a Convocation called to meet me—no work to do—but had considerable conversation, both pleasant and profitable; examined the minute books and found all satisfactory.

Tried about the same date to meet Ancient Frontenac, but was unable to do so.

On the 5th February, attended Pembroke Chapter, when after conferring the intermediate and Royal Arch degrees on several brethren, I installed the officers, and enjoyed the well known hospitality of the Companions.

On the 23rd February, visited Brockville and installed the officers of Sussex Chapter, examined books, &c., finding all things very satisfactory; was most kindly entertained by the Companions.

On the 12th March, visited Granite Chapter, Perth, consecrated their new Chapter room, and installed their officers; received a most cordial greeting.

As my duties, in my capacity of Surveyor of Shipping for the Canadian Government, have necessitated my absence from Ottawa since the beginning of May, I have been unable to meet with Grenville or Maitland Chapters.

But I am happy to be able to say that no Masonic complaint whatever has been brought before me, and in retiring from the honorable position which I have now held for the past two years, I would thank most cordially the Companions and Officers that

have made my duties pleasant and agreeable, and would bespeak for my successor that kind and Masonic greeting that can be *felt*.

Yours faithfully and fraternally,

W. M. SOMERVILLE,

Grand Superintendent Central District.

OTTAWA, 7th August, 1877.

NEW BRUNSWICK DISTRICT.

*To the Most Excellent the Grand Z. and Grand Officers of the
Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada:*

I beg leave to report that I have, during the past year, been in constant attendance upon New Brunswick Royal Arch Chapter, No. 10, and that this Chapter was, until the late disastrous fire in our city, working harmoniously and pleasantly; but now this Chapter is without warrant, without jewels, without regalia, and without furniture, all having been destroyed in the terrible conflagration: many of the Companions, too, have lost all they possessed.

It was my intention to have visited the other Chapters in this District this month, but being myself one of the sufferers by the fire, I have had neither time nor opportunity to visit them, and I know that the good feeling of the Companions toward me is such that they will forgive the apparent neglect. I have lost all my own regalia, jewels, certificates, &c., &c.

I am informed by the Scribe E. of New Brunswick Chapter that the records are saved, but all else is lost.

I trust that the Grand Chapter will take into their favorable consideration the present condition of this Chapter, and furnish a new warrant upon as reasonable terms as possible.

I am, yours, &c ,

J. C. HATHEWAY,

Grand Superintendent New Brunswick District.

ST. JOHN, N.B., July 18th 1877.

On motion of R. E. Comp. Thomas Sargant, seconded by R. E. Comp. A. G. Smyth, the reports of the Grand Superintendents of Districts were received and referred to the Executive Committee, for examination, and report thereon.

R. E. Comp. Henry Robertson submitted the report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, which on motion of R. E. Comp. Donald Ross, seconded by R. E. Comp. James Moffatt, was received and ordered to be printed as an appendix to the proceedings.

The Grand Scribe E. submitted the Annual Statement of moneys received during the past year, together with the books, &c.

R. E. Comp. David McLellan presented the Annual Statement of receipts and disbursements with vouchers attached.

Moved by E. Comp. John M. Gibson, seconded by V. E. Comp. Isaac Waterman, and resolved—

That the Annual Statements of the Grand Scribe E. and Grand Treasurer be received and referred to the Executive Committee for audit.

The following notices of motion of places for holding the next Annual Convocation of Grand Chapter were given, viz., by—

R. E. Comp.	David McLellan,	-	-	-	City of Belleville.
"	"	John M. Gibson,	-	-	City of Hamilton.
R	"	J. F. Toms,	-	-	City of Toronto.

Grand Scribe E. presented a petition from Comp. John Edgar Tamlyn and a number of Royal Arch Masons, residents of Wingham, asking for a Dispensation or Warrant to open a Chapter to be called "Toms" Chapter.

Moved by E. Comp. Henry Macpherson, seconded by R. E. Comp. Isaac F. Toms, and resolved—

That the petition be referred to the Executive Committee for consideration and report.

On motion of V. E. Comp. George Watson, seconded by R. E. Comp. J. B. Nixon, Article 1. of the Constitution of Grand "Superintendents of Districts" was amended, and the words "an installed First Principal or" were expunged, and in lieu thereof the letter "a" was inserted in said Article, and the clause of the Constitution as amended now reads as follows :—

He must be a Past First Principal, and a resident in the District for which he is appointed.

The Grand Chapter was called from labor to refreshment until 3 o'clock p. m.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The Grand Chapter resumed labor at 3 o'clock p. m.
Present—

M. E. Comp. L. H. Henderson,	Grand Z.	} Grand Council.
R. " " Fred. J. Menet,	" H.	
" " " C. L. Beard,	" J.	

On the Throne.

Grand officers, members and representatives.

R. E. Comp. F. J. Menet, on behalf of the Executive Committee, presented the following report on

AUDIT AND FINANCE.

The Executive Committee beg leave to report that they have examined the accounts, books and vouchers of the Grand Treasurer and Grand Scribe E. to the 1st August, 1877. They find them correct in every particular, and desire to express their commendation of the very neat, correct and concise manner in which the records of the Grand Chapter are kept.

The following is a condensed statement of the receipts and disbursements for the past year, and an exhibit of the financial position of the Grand Chapter as on 1st August :—

RECEIPTS.

Cash on hand from last year, \$2,109 14

Cash received for—

Certificates,	\$652 00	
Dues,	719 40	
Fees,	380 50	
Dispensations to open Chapters,	160 00	
“ various,	11 00	
Warrants,	190 00	
Constitutions,	59 80	
Interest on Dominion Stock,	191 19	
“ on Bank Account,	30 80	
Sundries,	11 88	
	<hr/>	2,406 57
		<hr/>
		\$4,515 71

EXPENDITURE.

Mrs. M. E. Harris, grant to 14th July, '77..	\$200 00	
Grand S. E., salary to 8th Aug., 1877.....	500 00	
R. P. Stephens, on ac. of bal. of salary, 1876,	122 30	
Grand Scribe E., incidental expenditure....	45 18	
Chairman Foreign Cor. report for 1876....	50 00	
G. C. Patterson, printing Proceedings, &c..	188 75	
Rolph, Smith & Co., parchment Certificates..	210 00	
Rordans & Nichols, engrossing Warrants ...	41 00	
Rowell & Hutchison, Stationery... :	31 75	
H. A. Baxter, attendance on Grand Chapter		
in 1876 to prove service of summons..	20 00	
Past Grand Z., sundry expenses.....	23 92	
	<hr/>	\$1,432 90
<i>Invested</i> —Dominion Stock bearing 5%.....	1,500 00	
Cash on deposit in Consolidated Bank.....	1,582 81	
	<hr/>	\$4,515 71

ASSETS.

Dominion Stock bearing 5%.....	\$4,500 00	
Cash in Bank.....	1,582 81	
	<hr/>	\$6,082 81

The Committee having examined the following accounts recommend payment of the same :—

Grand Scribe E., incidentals.....	\$ 45 18	
Geo. C. Patterson, printing Proceedings, 1876, 188	75	
Rolph, Smith & Co., parchment Certificates ..	210 00	
Rordans & Nichols, engraving Warrants	41 00	
		<hr/> \$484 93
W. C. Morrison	2 50	
James Bain & Son, Stationery	3 00	
Rolph, Smith & Co., Certificates, in stock	150 00	
Chairman Com. Foreign Correspondence, report for '77..	50 00	
R. P. Stephens, incidentals and expense of Annual Con-		
vocation in 1876.....	75 00	
Geo. C. Patterson, printing sundry papers	49 35	
Grand Z. incidental expenses for two years.....	50 00	
Expenses of Special Convocation of Grand Chapter in		
April, 1875.....	13 75	
		<hr/> \$393 60

The Committee recommend that the Grand Treasurer be authorized to defray the expenses incidental to the holding of the present Annual Convocation.

The Committee recommend that in future all payments be made only on order drawn by the Grand H. and counter-signed by the Grand Scribe E.

With regard to the application of the New Brunswick Chapter, No. 10, for the issuing of a new Warrant free of oharge, we recommend that the request be granted, and that the dues for 1876-77 be remitted.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

FRED. J. MENET,
Chairman of Com.

It was moved by R. E. Comp. Fred. J. Menet, seconded by R. E. Comp. James B. Nixon, and resolved :—

That the Report of the Executive Committee on Audit and Finance be received and adopted.

R. E. Comp. Henry Robertson presented the report of the Executive Committee on the Address of the M. E. the Grand First Principal :

REPORT.

The Executive Committee congratulate Grand Chapter on the able address delivered by the M. E. Grand Z., and it cannot but be eminently satisfactory to Grand Chapter to be reminded of its constantly increasing prosperity, and of the good work that Masonry in general has been enabled to accomplish in Canada.

The fearful and sudden death which came to the distinguished Grand Secretary of the Grand Chapter of Missouri at the calamitous fire at St. Louis, last spring, has called forth spontaneous expressions of regret from all the Masonic bodies in the world, which have yet had an opportunity of alluding to it, and we, in common with the other Grand Chapters of the Continent, offer our sincere and heartfelt sympathy to his relatives in their bereavement, as well as to his Grand Chapter in the great loss which they have sustained.

The Committee is pleased to learn that the difficulty which existed between this Grand Chapter and that of the District of Columbia is now happily at an end.

The Committee recommend that the appointments of Representatives of this Grand body near the Grand Chapters of the District of Columbia and New Hampshire, be confirmed.

Grand Chapter having, at the Emergent Convocation, held last February, recognized the lately formed Grand Chapter of Quebec, it is now unnecessary further to allude to this matter.

Your Committee are pleased to notice the satisfactory condition of the finances of Grand Chapter, and approve of the judicious action of the M. E. Grand Z., in the investment of the surplus funds.

In conclusion, your Committee feel assured that this Grand

Chapter fully appreciates the valuable services rendered to it by the M. E. Grand Z, in the performance of his official duties.

All of which is fraternally submitted,

HENRY ROBERTSON,
Chairman.

It was moved by R. E. Comp. Ered. J. Menet, seconded by R. E. Comp. H. Robertson, and resolved :—

That the Report of the Executive Committee on the address of the M. E. Grand Z. be received and adopted.

E. Comp. Henry Macpherson submitted the following report on

CAPITULAR MASONRY.

The Executive Committee beg leave to present the following report on the condition of Capitular Masonry :—

Reports have been received from the Superintendents of the London, Wilson, Huron, Wellington, Hamilton, Toronto, Ontario, Central, and New Brunswick Districts.

Capitular Masonry seems generally to be in a prosperous and flourishing condition, and where the Grand Superintendents have been able to visit, they report that the Chapters appear to work well, and progress with a sufficient increase of membership.

It is recommended that Chapters should not be commenced in villages near other Chapters, and where there is a question as to the sufficiency of proper material. And also, that great care should be exercised in the choice of officers of a new Chapter.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

HENRY MACPHERSON,
Chairman.

Moved by E. Comp. Henry Macpherson, seconded by R. E. Comp. W. H. Weller :—

That the Report of the Executive Committee on the condition of Capitular Masonry be received and adopted.

M. E. Comp. James Seymour, on behalf of the Executive Committee, presented the following report on

WARRANTS.

The Executive Committee on warrants beg leave to report that they have examined the books and records of the following Chapters under dispensations, namely:—

1. Parkhill Chapter—Parkhill.
2. Orient Chapter—Don Mount.
3. Ark Chapter—Windsor.
4. St. Mark's Chapter—St. Andrew's, N. B.

They find them correct and recommend that warrants be issued to these several Chapters.

With regard to St. Mark's Chapter of St. Andrew's N. B., it appears that the Companions forming this Chapter have surrendered a warrant, formerly held by them, from the Grand Chapter of England, bearing date in 1846. We therefore recommend that as No. 11 is now vacant, that number be assigned to the said St. Mark's Chapter.

Your Committee have also had before them the application for dispensation from certain Companions at Wingham, but, as it lacks the recommendation of the Grand Superintendent of the District, and as it appears that the establishment of this Chapter if ordered, would probably be injurious to another Chapter, your Committee cannot recommend that a warrant be granted in this case.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

JAMES SEYMOUR,
Chairman.

It was moved by R. E. Comp. Fred. J. Menet, seconded by M. E. Comp. James Seymour, and resolved:—

That the Report of the Executive Committee on Warrants be received and adopted.

Moved by R. E. Comp. F. J. Menet, Toronto, seconded by R. E. Comp. H. Robertson, Collingwood, and resolved—

That the name of the Chapter at Park Hill, for which a Dispensation was issued by the Grand Z., be changed, and the name “Minnewawa” be inserted in the Warrant granted by this Grand Chapter.

Moved by R. E. Comp. F. J. Menet, seconded by R. E. Comp. Thomas Sargant, and resolved,—

That the proxy issued by Grimsby Chapter, No. 69, to E. Comp. W. M. Gibson, be received, although not strictly in accordance with the form prescribed by the Constitution.

Moved by M. E. Comp. James Seymour, seconded by E. Comp. Henry Macpherson, and resolved,—

That as a token of the respect of this Grand Chapter for the memory of the late Comp. George Frank Gouley, a memorial page be published with the proceedings.

In accordance with notice given, Grand Chapter voted on the several places put in nomination for holding the next Annual Convocation of Grand Chapter, when on motion of E. Comp. John M. Gibson, seconded by R. E. Comp. A. G. Smyth, the vote was declared in favor of the City of Hamilton.

The election of officers was then proceeded with, the Grand Scribes acting as scrutineers of the ballot. The following named Companions were declared duly elected :

M. E. Comp.	Fred. J. Menet,	Toronto,	Grand Z.
R. “ “	Thomas C. Macnabb,	Chatham,	“ H.
“ “ “	Donald Ross,	Picton,	“ J.
“ “ “	Daniel Spry,	Toronto,	“ Scribe E.
“ “ “	George Watson,	Toronto,	“ Scribe N.
“ “ “	J. J. Mason,	Hamilton,	“ Prin. Sojo'r.
“ “ “	David McLellan,	Hamilton,	“ Treasurer.
“ “ “	Isaac Waterman,	London,	“ Registrar.
And by an open vote of Grand Chapter,	Comp. W. W. Summers,		“ Janitor.

The following Companions were nominated by the Representatives from the respective Districts, and approved by the M. E. Grand Z., as

GRAND SUPERINTENDENTS.

R. E. Comp.	Robert Lewis, London.	London District.
" "	" James Canfeild, Ingersoll,	Wilson "
" "	" Wm. Elliott, Elora,	Wellington "
" "	" John M. Gibson, Hamilton,	Hamilton "
" "	" John Gibson, Stratford,	Huron "
" "	" R. Struthers, St. Catharines,	Niagara "
" "	" E. R. Carpenter, Collingwood,	Toronto "
" "	" J. H. Helm, Port Hope,	Ontario "
" "	" David Pitcathley, Belleville,	P. Edward "
" "	" V. H. Moore, M.D., Brockville,	Central "
" "	" J. C. Hatheway, M.D., St. John,	N. Brun'k. "
" "	" W. W. Kennedy, Winnipeg,	Manitoba "

The following named Companions were elected members of the Executive Committee for the ensuing year :—

R. E. Comp.	W. H. Weller,	Cobourg.
" "	" Henry Robertson,	Collingwood.
" "	" Henry Macpherson,	Owen Sound.
R. "	" J. B. Nixon,	Toronto.
" "	" William Carey,	Hamilton.

At a subsequent date the M. E. Grand Z. was pleased to notify the Grand Scribe E. of the following appointments to office for the year ensuing, viz :—

V. E. Comp.	John Erskine, Toronto,	Grand 1st Asst Sojo'r.
" "	" Rev. St. G. Caulfeild, Windsor,	" 2nd "
" "	" G. E. Elliott, St. Andrew, N.B.	" Sword Bearer.
" "	" George Hopkins, Whitby,	" Standard "
" "	" James Wilson, Toronto,	" Dir. of Cer.
" "	" Archibald McMillan, Kingston,	" Organist.
" "	" Charles S. Scott, Ottawa,	" Pursuivant.
" "	" James Smith, Belleville,	" Stewards.
" "	" Mich. J. Houston, Chatham,	
" "	" James Noble, Strathroy,	
" "	" John Ferguson, Collingwood,	

R. E. Comp. Daniel Spry presented his credentials as the Representative of the Grand Chapter of Quebec which the M. E. the Grand Z. was pleased to receive, and the usual Masonic salutations were extended to him.

The Grand Chapter was called from labor to refreshment, to meet at 8 p. m.

EVENING SESSION.

The Grand Chapter resumed labor at 8 p. m. Present,—

M. E. Comp.	L. H. Henderson,	Grand Z.	} Grand Council.
R. “ “	F. J. Menet,	“ H.	
“ “ “	C. L. Beard,	“ J.	

On the Throne.

Grand officers, members and Representatives.

M. E. Comp. James Seymour, Past Grand Z., proceeded with the installation and investiture of the newly elected officers, who were proclaimed and saluted with the customary Masonic honours.

Moved by R. E. Comp. David McLellan, seconded by R. E. Comp. James O'Connor, and resolved,—

That the Grand Scribe E. be authorized to have 400 copies of the Proceedings of this Annual Convocation printed and distributed.

Moved by M. E. Comp. James Seymour seconded by M. E. Comp. L. H. Henderson, and resolved,—

That the cordial thanks of this Grand Chapter be tendered to the Companions of St. John's Chapter, No. 3, St. George's Chapter, No. 6, and the Royal Arch Masons, of the city of London, for the excellent arrangements made for the holding of the Annual Convocation of Grand Chapter, and for the generous hospitality extended to the Representatives and Visitors.

Moved by R. E. Comp. David McLellan, seconded by R. E. Comp. Isaac F. Toms, and resolved,—

That in order to mark in an appropriate manner our high appreciation of the services of M. E. Comp. L. H. Henderson as Grand Z. during the past two years, a committee be appointed to procure and present to him a suitable testimonial.

The Grand Z. appointed M. E. Comp. S. B. Harman, R. E. Comps. Donald Ross and Daniel Spry to procure and

present a testimonial in accordance with the foregoing resolution.

The following notice of motion for next Annual Convocation was given by E. Comp. Henry Macpherson,—

That Article 9 of the Constitution of Grand Chapter be changed so far as relates to the time at which the Annual Convocation be held.

It was moved by R. E. Comp. R. J. Hovenden, seconded by R. E. Comp. Thomas Sargent, and resolved,—

That the thanks of this Grand Chapter be tendered to the Richelieu and Ontario Navigation Company, and the Ottawa River Navigation Co., to the Grand Trunk, Canada Southern, Great Western, Northern, the St. Lawrence and Ottawa, the Port Dover and Lake Huron, the Hamilton and North-western, Canada Central, the Midland, and B. and O., Railways for their liberality in reducing the fares to delegates attending this Annual Convocation.



The labors of Grand Chapter being ended, it was closed in **AMPLE FORM** at 9.30 o'clock p. m.

Daniel Spry

GRAND SCRIBE E..

ANNUAL STATEMENT, AUGUST, 1877.

DANIEL SPRY, G.S.E., in account with the Grand Chapter of Canada.

No. 1—Ancient Frontenac..	14 00
“ 2—The Hiram.....	52 10
“ 3—St. John's.....	76 40
“ 4—St. Andrew and St. John.....	54 50
“ 5—St. George.....	45 90
“ 6—St. John's.....	237 30
“ 7—Moir.....	61 30
“ 8—King Solomon's....	81 80
“ 9—Golden Rule.....	51 00
“ 12—Cataraqui.....	32 60
“ 13—Stadacona.....	40 60
“ 15—Wawanosh. . . .	47 20
“ 16—Carleton.....	64 00
“ 18—Oxford.....	20 20
“ 19—Mount Moriah.....	36 80
“ 20—Mount Horeb.....	25 80
“ 21—Carnarvon.....	19 20
“ 24—Tecumseh.....	34 20
“ 25—Mount Horeb.....	32 00
“ 27—Manitou.....	10 40
“ 28—Pentalpha.....	12 60
“ 29—McCallum	20 00
“ 31—Prince Edward.....	21 60
“ 32—Waterloo.....	27 40
“ 34—Signet.....	20 48
“ 36—Corinthian.....	39 00
“ 37—Victoria.....	11 60
“ 38—Seymour.....	7 10
“ 40—Guelph	30 30

Carried forward, - \$1227 38

B't forward, -	\$1227 38
“ 41—Harris.....	2 00
“ 42—Montreal.....	15 20
“ 50—Saugeen.....	60 00
“ 51—St. Charles.....	53 40
“ 53—Bruce.....	30 00
“ 54—DeWarrene	55 30
“ 56—Georgian.....	12 90
“ 57—King Hiram.....	25 40
“ 59—Sussex.....	8 00
“ 62—York.....	11 00
“ 65—Yorkville	32 90
“ 66—Seaforth.....	18 50
“ 67—Enterprise.....	19 00
“ 68—Maitland.....	14 20
“ 69—Grimsby.....	33 40
“ 70—Grand River.....	91 80
“ 71—Prince of Wales....	55 00
“ 72—Keystone	58 70
“ 73—Erie.....	50 00
“ 74—Beaver.....	47 50
“ 75—St. Clair.....	7 80
“ 76—Mount Nebo.....	19 60
“ 77—Occident.....	89 60
U. D.—Park Hill.....	56 00
U. D.—Orient.....	40 00
U. D.—Ark.....	40 00
U. D.—St. Mark's.....	10 00
Interest on \$4500....	191 19
“ “ Bank Deposit....	30 80

\$2406 57

CASH STATEMENT.

Moneys received by the Grand Scribe E, and paid over to the Grand Treasurer, from 9th of August, 1876, to 7th of August, 1877.

1877.		1876.	
Aug. 8.	To Receipts.....2,406 57	Sept. 30.	By Grand Treas...113 00
		Oct. 30.	" " ..108 00
		1877.	
		Jan. 30.	" " ..288 19
		May 11.	" " ..612 50
		July 18.	" " ..300 00
		" 27.	" " ..300 27
		" 30.	" " ..432 58
		Aug. 3.	" " ..221 23
		" 3.	" " .. 30 80
	\$2,406 57		\$2,406 57

RECAPITULATION.

Certificates,	\$652 00
Dues,	719 40
Fees,	380 50
Dispensations to open Chapters	160 00
Dispensations, various	11 00
Warrants,	190 00
Constitutions,	59 80
Interest on \$4,500 Dominion Stock,	191 19
Interest on Bank Deposit	30 80
Sundries,	11 88
	<u>\$2,406 57</u>

DANIEL SPRY,

Grand Scribe E.

DAVID McLELLAN, GRAND TREASURER, IN ACC. WITH
GRAND CHAPTER.

1876.	DR.	
Aug. 1.	To cash on hand	\$2,109 14
Oct. 3.	“ from Grand Scribe E.....	113 00
“ 30.	“ “ “	108 00
Nov. 10.	Bank interest to date	20 50
1877.		
Jan. 13.	Cash from Grand Scribe E.....	209 50
“ 13.	Interest on \$4,500 to Oct. 30, 1876	78 69
May 12.	Cash from Grand Scribe E	500 00
“ 12.	Interest on \$4,500 to April 30, 1877.....	112 50
“ 12.	Bank interest to May 10, 1877	10 30
July 19.	Cash from Grand Scribe E.....	300 00
“ 30.	“ “ “	300 27
“ 31.	“ “ “	653 81
		<hr/> \$2,406 57

1876.	CR.	
Aug. 15.	By order to Mrs. M. E. Harris	\$50 00
Sept. 8.	“ H. Robertson	50 00
“ 8.	“ Rowsell & Hutchinson	31 75
“ 8.	“ H. A. Baxter	20 00
Oct. 11.	“ Jas. Seymour	23 92
“ 11.	“ Rec. Gen'l. 5% Dom. Stock....	1,500 00
Dec. 13.	“ Mrs. M. E. Harris	50 00
1877.		
Jan. 13.	“ Rordans & Nichols	41 00
“ 13.	“ Daniel Spry, Salary, G. S. E....	125 00
“ 13.	“ G. C. Patterson	188 75
Feb. 19.	“ Mrs. M. E. Harris	50 00
“ 20.	“ Daniel Spry, Salary	125 00
May 1.	“ “ “	125 00
“ 10.	“ Mrs. M. E. Harris	50 00
July 19.	“ Rolph, Smith & Co.....	210 00
“ 30.	“ Daniel Spry, Salary	125 00
“ 30.	“ “ Incidentals	45 18
“ 31.	“ R. P. Stephens, Salary	122 30
		<hr/> 2,932 90
	To Bal. in Consolidated Bank, Hamilton..	1,582 81
		<hr/> \$4,515 71

ASSETS.

Dominion Five per cent. Stock	\$4,500 00
Cash in Consolidated Bank, Hamilton.....	1,582 81
	<hr/> \$6,082 81

RETURN OF SUBORDINATE CHAPTERS ACCORDING TO LAST RETURN RECEIVED.

NO.	NAME.	WHERE HELD.	NIGHT OF MEETING.	FIRST PRINCIPAL Z.	SCRIBE E.
1	Ancient Frontenac	Kingston. C.	Third Tuesday in Feb., May, Aug. & Nov.	Samuel Woods, M.A.	Geo. W. Andrews.
2	The Hiram.	Hamilton. H.	First Monday of every month.	Gavin Stewart.	F. F. Dalley.
3	St. John's.	London. L.	Fourth Wednesday of every month.	Thos. H. Tracey.	John Siddons.
4	St. Andrew & St. John	Toronto. T.	Third Friday of every month.	John Erskine.	Ulysses Boddy.
5	St. George's.	London. L.	Third Tuesday of every month.	Robert Lewis.	Ham'n. A. Baxter.
6	St. John's.	Hamilton. H.	Second Thursday of every month.	Donald McPhie.	Albert Pain.
7	Moir.	Belleville. P. E.	First Tuesday of every month.	James Smith.	Donald McLean.
8	King Solomon's.	Toronto. T.	Third Monday of every month.	George Watson.	Jno. R. Robertson.
9	Golden Rule.	Sherbrooke. Q.	Tues. on or before f. m. in Mar. June. Sep. Dec.	Withdrawn to Gd.	Chapter Quebec.
10	New Brunswick.	St. John, N. B.	First Thursday of every month.	Henry Duffell.	D. S. Steward.
11	St. Mark's.	St. Andrew's N. B.	Second Thursday of each month.	Geo. Edmund Elliott	W. D. Forster.
12	Cataraqui.	Kingston. C.	Second Monday in Feb. May, Aug. & Nov.	Robert Hendry, Jr.	Abraham Shaw.
13	Stadacona.	Quebec. Q.	Second Thursday in Jan. April, July & Oct.	Withdrawn to Gd.	Chapter Quebec.
14	Prevost.	Dunham. Q.	First Thursday of every month.	"	"
15	Wawanosh.	Sarnia. L.	Second Friday in Jan. April, July & Oct.	James McIntyre.	James Woods.
16	Carleton.	Ottawa. C.	Second Monday of every month.	C. S. Scott.	Peter Duncan.
17	Dorchester.	Waterloo. Q.	First Thursday of every month.	Withdrawn to Gd.	Chapter Quebec.
18	Oxford.	Woodstock. W.	First Friday of every month.	A. W. Francis.	Joseph Codville.
19	Mount Moriah.	St. Catharines. N.	Friday on or before full moon of each month.	John Dale.	John Rogerson.
20	Mount Horeb.	Brantford. W.	First Wednesday of every month.	Charles B. Heyd.	Robert Morton.
21	Carnarvon.	Montreal. Q.	Third Tuesday in Feb., May, Aug., Nov.	Withdrawn to Gd.	Chapter Quebec.
22	Grenville.	Prescott. C.	First Wednesday in Jan. April, July & Oct.	James Reynolds.	John Easton.
23	Ezra.	Simcoe. W.	Second Wednesday of every month.	No returns, 1877.	
24	Tecumseth.	Stratford. H.	Last Tuesday of every month.	C. T. Campbell.	Charles W. Young.
25	Mount Horeb.	Montreal. Q.	Second Wednesday of every month.	Withdrawn to Gd.	Chapter Quebec.
26	St. Mark's.	Trenton. O.	Second Wednesday of every month.	No returns, 1877.	
27	Manitou.	Collingwood. T.	First Friday of every month.	John Nettleton.	Frank B. Gregory.
28	Pentalpha.	Oshawa. O.	First Friday of every month.	M. Gilbranson.	John Boyd.
29	McCallum.	Dunnville. N.	Friday on or after full moon of every month.	Silas Hoover.	Robert Nimmo.

30	Huron.....	Goderich.....	Hn.	First Friday of every month.....	Isaac F. Toms.....	E. Hosker.
31	Prince Edward..	Pictou.....	P.E.	Friday on or after every full moon.....	James Tennent.....	A. J. Corkindale.
32	Waterloo.....	Galt.....	Wn.	Monday on or after full moon of every month.....	Alfred Taylor.....	William Trotter.
34	Signet.....	Orillia.....	T.	First Tuesday of every month.....	Augustus J. Alport.....	Aug's. F. Dulmage.
35	Keystone.....	Whitby.....	O.	Third Thursday of every month.....	George Hopkins.....	J. H. Addison.
36	Corinthian.....	Peterboro'gh..	O.	Third Friday of every month.....	Robert H. Green..	Walter Paterson, Jr.
37	Victoria.....	Port Hope.....	O.	Second Thursday of every month.....	J. H. Helm.....	George McLean.
38	Seymour.....	Bradford.....	T.	Friday on or before full moon of every month.....	B. F. Kendall.....	H. S. Broughton.
39	Botsford.....	Moncton.....	N.B.	Third Monday of every month.....	No returns.	
40	Guelph.....	Guelph.....	Wn.	Friday on or after every full moon.....	H. K. Maitland..	J. Minnick.
41	Harris.....	Ingersoll.....	W.	First Tuesday after full moon of every month.....	No returns.	
42	Montreal.....	Montreal.....	Q.	Second Friday of every month.....	Withdrawn to Gd.	Chapter Quebec.
43	Royal Albert....	Montreal.....	Q.	Third Wednesday in Dec. Mar. June and Oct.	"	"
44	Mount Sinai.....	Napanee.....	C.	Wednesday after every full moon.....	No returns.	
45	Excelsior.....	Colborne.....	O.	First Thursday of every month.....	No returns.	
46	St. James'.....	St. Mary's.....	L.	Second Wednesday of every month.....	No returns.	
47	Wellington.....	Chatham.....	L.	Thursday on or before full moon every month.....	Michael J. Houston	Charles Crofts.
48	St. John's.....	Cobourg.....	Wn.	Friday on or before full moon every month.....	R. J. Winch.....	Geo. J. Stephens.
49	Elora.....	Elora.....	Wn.	Wednesday after full moon every month.....	William Elliott....	W. Gay.
50	Saugen.....	Walkerton.....	Hn.	Second Wed. Jan., Mar., May, July, Sep., Oct.	Ezra A. Healy.....	R. Sutherland.
51	St. Charles'.....	Pt. St. Chas...Q.	Q.	First Tuesday of every month.....	Withdrawn to Gd.	Chapter Quebec.
52	Prince Rupert...	Winnipeg.....	Man.	First Thursday of every month.....	No returns.	
53	Bruce.....	Petrolia.....	L.	First Thursday of every month.....	Wm. H. McGarvey	R. Lawyer.
54	De Warrenne....	St. Thomas...L.	L.	First Tuesday of every month.....	Robert Mackay....	A. E. McKay.
55	Niagara.....	Niagara.....	N.	Thursday after the full moon of every month.....	John M. Clement...	Robert Best.
56	Georgian.....	Owen Sound...T.	T.	First Tuesday of every month.....	D. A. Creason.....	Robert Wightman.
57	King Hiram.....	Pt. Colborne..N.	N.	First Thursday of every month.....	Edwin Smith.....	D. W. Carter.
58	Pembroke.....	Pembroke.....	C.	First Monday of every month.....	No returns.	
59	Sussex.....	Brockville...C.	C.	Friday on or before full moon of every month.....	V. H. Moore, M.D.	Joseph A. Bissell.
60	Doric.....	Newmarket...C.	C.	First Wednesday of every month.....	No returns.	
61	Granite.....	Perth.....	C.	Second Monday of every month.....	Thomas Kearns....	W. T. Walker.
62	York.....	Eglington.....	T.	Fourth Thursday of every month.....	T. Armstrong, M.D.	W. E. Norris.
63	Havelock.....	Lucknow.....	Hn.	First Monday of every month.....	John S. Tennent...	John Martin.
64	Wilson.....	Welland.....	N.	Last Wednesday of every month.....	Isaac P. Willson..	E. S. Odium.

Return of Subordinate Chapters, &c., Continued.

NO.	NAME.	WHERE HELD.	NIGHT OF MEETING.	FIRST PRINCIPAL Z.	SCRIBE E.
65	Ontario	Yorkville	Second Wednesday of every month	Chas. W. Brown ..	Henry Fulford.
66	Seaforth	Seaforth	Friday before full moon of every month	Alex. Slimmon	M. B. Counter.
67	Enterprise	Harriston ... W.N.	Tuesday after full moon of every month	John McLaren	George Bates.
68	Maitland	Maitland	Thur. nearest f. m. in Mar, June, Sept. & Dec.	Daniel Collins	Geo. C. Longley.
69	Grimsby	Grimsby	First Wed. in Jan. Mar. May, July, Sep. & Dec.	William Forbes	James N. Kitchen.
70	Grand River	Waterloo ... W.N.	First Wednesday after full moon	Charles Hendry	J. Suddaby.
71	Prince of Wales ..	Amherstburg ... L.	First Wednesday on or before full moon	George Gott	R. J. Scott.
72	Key Stone	St. Thomas	Third Friday in every month	Josiah Corlis, M. D.	Henry Kirkland.
73	Erie	Port Stanley ... L.	First Friday in every month	N. S. McCall	Jno. Hebblethwaite
74	Beaver	Strathroy	Second Tuesday of each month	James Noble	D. A. McMichael.
75	St. Clair	Milton	Second Wednesday Jan. & alternate months..	William Pantou ..	D. W. Campbell.
76	Mount Nebo	Drummondv'e. N.	First Friday after full moon	Samuel Smith	Sidney Barnett.
77	Occident	Toronto	Fourth Monday of every month	James Wilson	Jos. Albin Slack.
78	Park Hill	Park Hill	Third Wednesday of each month	Wm. Caw, M. D. ...	Alexander Burns.
79	Orient	Don Mount ... T.	Third Wednesday of each month	Daniel Spry	W. Arthur Phipps.
80	Ark	Windsor	First Wednesday of each month	Rev. St. G. Caulfeild	B. H. Rothwell.

NOTE.—The capital letters on the right of "where held" column indicate the several Districts, viz. :—C, Central ; H, Hamilton ; H^N, Huron ; L, London ; M, Manitoba ; N, Niagara ; N.B., New Brunswick ; O, Ontario ; P.E., Prince Edward ; W, Wilson ; W^N, Wellington.

BALANCES IN LEDGER, AUGUST, 1877.

TWENTIETH ANNUAL CONVOCATION, LONDON, 5877.

209

No.	NAME OF CHAPTER.	PLACE.	WARRANT GRANTED.	NO RETURNS.	NO RETURNS.	LAST RETURN, '76.	AM'T DUE.	CREDITS.
1	Ancient Frontenac.....	Kingston	A. D. 1795.	....	....	31st Jan. 1877.	\$5 00	....
2	The Hiram	Hamilton	" 1820.	....	....	" "	....	....
3	St. John's	London	" 1844.	....	....	" "	....	....
4	St. Andrew & St. John ..	Toronto.....	" 1847.	....	....	" "	2 00	....
5	St. George's.....	London	" 1854.	....	....	" "	....	....
6	St. John's	Hamilton	" 1855.	....	....	" "	....	....
7	Moir	Belleville	" 1856.	1876.	....	" "	21 30	....
8	King Solomon's.....	Toronto.....	" 1857.	....	....	" "	....	....
10	New Brunswick.....	St. John .....	....	....	....	" "	....	....
11	St. Mark's	St. Andrew, N. B.	Sept. 1846.	....	....	" "	....	....
12	Cataraqui.....	Kingston	A. D. 1859.	....	....	" "	1 00	....
15	Wawanosh	Sarnia	Feb. 8, 1860.	....	....	" "	....	....
16	Carleton	Ottawa .....	" "	....	....	" "	....	....
18	Oxford	Woodstock .....	" "	....	....	" "	....	....
19	Mount Moriah	St. Catharines....	Feb. 21, 1861.	....	....	" "	....	....
20	Mount Horeb.....	Brantford .....	" "	....	....	" "	....	....
22	Grenville	Prescott	Feb. 20, 1862.	....	....	" "	7 40	....
23	Ezra	Simcoe	" "	1876.	....	31st Jan. 1875.	8 55	....
24	Tecumseh	Stratford	Aug. 11, 1863	1876.	1877.	31st Jan. 1877.	....	....
26	St. Mark's	Trenton.....	Aug. 14, 1866	....	....	31st Jan. 1873.	19 00	....
27	Manitou	Collingwood	" "	1874.	1875-6-7.	31st Jan. 1877.	....	....
28	Pentalpha.....	Oshawa.....	Aug. 13, 1867	....	....	" "	....	....
29	McCallum	Dunnville .....	" "	....	....	" "	28 20	....
30	Huron	Goderich	" "	1876.	....	" "	....	8 00
31	Prince Edward	Pictou	Aug. 11, 1868	....	....	" "	....	....
32	Waterloo	Galt	Aug. " "	....	....	" "	3 00	....
34	Signet	Orillia	Aug. 10, 1869	....	....	" "	....	....
35	Keystone	Whitby	Aug. " "	1875.	1876.	" "	4 00	....

BALANCES IN LEDGER, AUGUST, 1877.—Continued.

No.	NAME OF CHAPTER.	PLACE.	WARRANT GRANTED.	NO RETURNS	NO RETURNS	LAST RETURNS.	AM'T DUE.	CREDITS.
36	Corinthian	Peterboro'	Aug. 10, 1869	....	....	"	....	....
37	Victoria	Port Hope	Aug. "	....	....	"	8 40	....
38	Seymour	Bradford	Aug. 10, 1870	....	....	"	8 70	....
39	Botsford	Moncton	Aug. "	....	1877.	31st Jan. 1876.	1 00	....
40	Guelph	Guelph	"	....	....	31st Jan. 1877.	....	....
41	Harris	Ingersoll	"	....	....	31st Jan. 1875.	5 00	....
44	Mount Sinai	Napanee	Aug. 9, 1871	1876.	1877.	"	....	....
45	Excelsior	Colborne	Aug. "	1876.	1877.	"	....	....
46	St. James'	St. Mary's	"	1874-5.	1876-7.	31st Jan. 1873.	....	....
47	Wellington	Chatham	"	....	....	31st Jan. 1877.	10 60	....
48	St. John's	Cobourg	Aug. 14, 1872	1876	....	"	5 00	....
49	Elora	Elora	"	....	....	"	....	....
50	Saugeen	Walkerton	"	....	....	"	....	....
52	Prince Rupert's	Winnipeg	"	....	1877.	31st Jan. 1876.	....	....
53	Bruce	Petrolia	"	....	1877.	31st Jan. 1877.	27 40	....
54	De Warrenne	St. Thomas	Aug. 13, 1873	....	....	"	....	....
55	Niagara	Niagara	"	....	....	"	50 60	....
56	Georgian	Owen Sound	"	....	....	"	2 20	....
57	King Hiram	Port Colborne	Aug. 14, 1874	....	....	"	2 00	....
58	Pembroke	Pembroke	"	1876.	....	31st Jan. 1875.	10 00	....
59	Sussex	Brockville	"	....	1877.	31st Jan. 1877.	6 00	....
60	Doric	Newmarket	"	1876.	....	31st Jan. 1875.	....	....
61	Granite	Perth	"	....	....	31st Jan. 1877.	10 00	....
62	York	Eglington	"	....	1877.	31st Jan. 1875.	6 00	....
63	Havelock	Lucknow	"	....	....	31st Jan. 1877.	10 00	....
64	Willson	Welland	Aug. 11, 1875	....	....	"	17 80	....
65	Ontario	Yorkville	"	....	....	"	10 00	....
66	Seaforth	Seaforth	"	....	....	"	....	....

67	Enterprise	.....	Harriston	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
68	Maitland	.....	Maitland	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
69	Grimsby	.....	Grimsby	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	5 60
70	Grand River	.....	Waterloo	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
71	Prince of Wales	.....	Amherstburg	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
72	Keystone	.....	St. Thomas	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
73	Erie	.....	Port Stanley	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
74	Beaver	.....	Strathroy	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1 00
75	St. Clair	.....	Milton	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
76	Mount Nebo	.....	Drummondville	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
77	Occident	.....	Toronto	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
78	Minnewawa	.....	Park Hill	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	10 00
79	Orient	.....	Don Mount	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	10 00
80	Ark	.....	Windsor	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	10 00

[illegible]

Tabular Statement Extracted from the Returns for year ended 31st January, 1877.—Continued.

No.	NAME OF CHAPTER.	NAME OF PLACE.	No. of Admissions.	No. of Joinings.	Restored.	Withdrawals.	Suspensions.	Expelled.	Deaths.	No. of Members.
73	Erie	Port Stanley ..	9	10	.. ..	.....	.. ..	.....	.....	19
74	Beaver	Strathroy	13	13	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	26
75	St. Clair	Milton	5	9	.....	.....	.....	.....	.. ..	14
76	Mount Nebo	Drummondville..	2	16	.. ..	.....	.....	.....	.....	18
77	Occident	Toronto.....	9	24	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	33
78	Minnewawa	Park Hill	16	9	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	24
79	Orient	Don Mount .....	.....	18	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	18
80	Ark	Windsor .....	.....	10	.. ..	.....	.....	.....	.....	10
			391	166	12	101	72	7	32	3,115

RECAPITULATION.

Total number of Warrants granted	80	Number Registrations	391
Withdrawn on formation of Grand Chapter Nova Scotia,		“ Joinings	166
No.	1	“ Restored.....	12
Withdrawn on formation of Grand Chapter Quebec,		“ Withdrawals	101
Nos. 9, 13, 14, 17, 21, 25, 42, 43, 51.....	9	“ Suspensions.	72
— 10	—	“ Deaths.....	32
Number of Chapters on the Roll.....	70	“ Expelled.....	7
“ Represented in Grand Chapter.....	54	Total number of Members on Roll of Grand Chapter...	3,115
		Decrease in 1876-7.....	170
Total amount of Receipts, 1876-7.....			\$2,406 57

SUSPENSIONS.

NON-PAYMENT OF DUES.

No. 1. Ancient Frontenac, Kingston.

Hiram O. Hitchcock. | John Geale. | Alex. S. Kirkpatrick.

No. 2. The Hiram, Hamilton.

W. J. Ratsay.

No. 3. St. John's, London.

Wm. W. Gray. | Samuel W. Abbott.

No. 6. St. John's, Hamilton.

Joseph Powell. | William F. Biggar.

No. 7. Moria, Belleville.

Earnest L. Beaufort.	Smith Stephens.	Andrew B. Elmer.
Nath'l. B. Falkiner.	Wm. Phillips.	Jas. D. Reynolds.
John J. Shaver.	Wm. Riggs.	Robert R. Lloyd.
	Sylvester D. Ross.	

No. 8. King Solomon's, Toronto.

James Summers.

No. 10. New Brunswick, St. John.

David Martin.	John G. Jordan.	Thos. H. Gilleat.
Wm. H. Oliver.	Thos. H. Ellice.	Jos. Henderson.
Albert Ehlert.	Wm. C. Morissey.	A. D. Goodwin.
Jno. B. Hammond.	Fred. P. Robinson.	Thos. A. Glennie.

No. 12. Cataraqui, Kingston.

James J. Whitehead.	Isaac H. Price.	Ed. J. Lalley.
J. C. Chamberlain.	Jno. N. Glidden.	A. B. Booth.
	Donald McDonald.	

No. 16. Carleton, Ottawa.

James Bailiff.	Carrol Ryan.	Peter Millar.
Geo. Clarke.	Jas. Stewart.	Nicholas Sparks.
Sam'l. Gouldthrite.	Thos. H. Kirby.	And. Smith.
E. A. Mara.	Geo. Leven.	Alex. Traylor.

No. 18. Oxford, Woodstock.

Thos. Cowan. | A. McClenaghan. | Moses Tripp.

No. 20. Mount Horeb, Brantford.

Alex. Howie. | Geo. Lindley. | W. L. Beemer.

No. 24. Tecumseh, Stratford.

John Dutton.	|	Jas. Redford.	|	Wm. Sedgwick.
--------------	--	---------------	--	---------------

No. 27. Manitou, Collingwood.

W. C. Sumner.	|	Jos. Anderton.	|	Jos. Jardine.
A. M. Sutherland.	|	Thos. Roadley.	|	W. J. Sargent.
		W. T. Robertson.		

No. 32. Waterloo, Galt.

Jacob Shoemaker.	|	Ed. Musgrave.	|	J. H. Miller.
------------------	--	---------------	--	---------------

No. 40. Guelph, Guelph.
John R. Porte.

No. 47. Wellington, Chatham.
John L. Thompson.

EXPULSED FOR UNMASONIC CONDUCT.

No. 5. St. George, London.
William Edge.

SUSPENDED FOR UNMASONIC CONDUCT.

No. 28. Pentalpha, Oshawa.
Thos. G. Hawthorne.

No. 54. De Warrenne, St. Thomas.
Wm. E. Smith, M. D.

RESTORATIONS.

No. 12. Cataraqui, Kingston.
A. B. Booth.

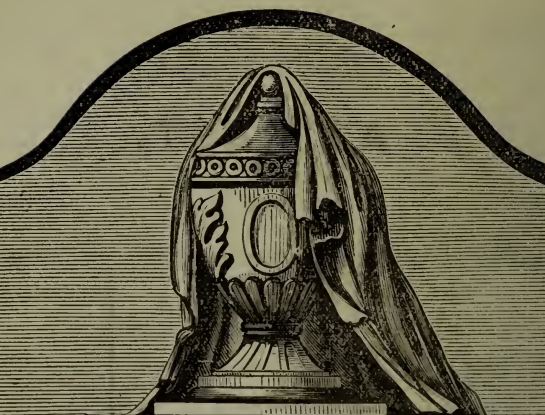
No. 22. Grenville, Prescott.
John O. Ormiston.

No. 32. Waterloo, Galt.
G. W. Bingham.

No. 38. Seymour, Bradford.
Gibson Cook.

AT REST.

NAME.	NAME AND NO. OF CHAPTER.	DATE.
James Fisher.....	1, Ancient Frontenac..	Mar. 6th, 1876.
Richard Town	“ “	June 14th, 1876.
John Eastwood, Jr.....	4, St. And. & St. John.	Mar. 31st, 1876.
Richard Sands	5, St. George's.....	July 21st, 1875.
George Ritchie	7, Moira	May 6th, 1877.
George Chanter.....	8, King Solomon's	Jan. 5th 1877.
Henry Card	10, New Brunswick....	May, 1877.
Richard Town	12, Cataragui	June 14th, 1876.
R. L. James	16, Carleton	Feb. 5th, 1876.
Philip S. Stift	“	June 1st, 1876.
W. H. Supple	“	June 21st, 1876.
John Erskine, M.D.	“	May 27th, 1876.
George Groves	19, Mount Moriah.....	Mar. 29th, 1876.
Arunah Huntington....	20, Mount Horeb	Jan. 1877.
William Winter	24, Tecumseh	Dec. 26th, 1876.
Jabez Amsden	29, Dunnville.....	Mar. 18th, 1876.
William Fry	“	Mar 29th, 1876.
J. B. Brown	30, Huron	No date.
Edward Campagne	“	“
David John Prunyn	31, Prince Edward	April 2nd, 1876.
G. S. Philip	32, Waterloo	April 16th, 1875.
Frederick Breimer	“	April, 1876.
George Bates.....	40, Guelph	Jan. 5th, 1877.
Peter B. Brown	50, Sangeen	No date.
Ezra Foote.....	54, St. Thomas	July 20th, 1877.
Rev. Wm. Smart	59, Sussex	——, 1875.
C. Eldridge	“	——. 1875.
Wm. Littlefield	62, York	Dec. 19th, 1875.
Joseph Dain	65, Ontario.....	Jan. 10th, 1877.
George Bates.....	67, Enterprise.....	Jan. 5th, 1877.



IN MEMORIAM.

RIGHT EXCELLENT COMPANION.

GEORGE FRANK COULEY,

GRAND SECRETARY

GRAND CHAPTER OF MISSOURI.

DIED APRIL 10TH, 1877.

AT REST.

BEALE, TORONTO

OFFICERS OF THE GRAND CHAPTER, 1877-8.

M. E. Comp.	Fred. J. Menet, Toronto,	Grand Z.	} Grand Council.
R. " "	Thos. C. Macnabb, Chatham,	" H.	
" " "	Donald Ross, Picton,	" J.	
" " "	Robert Lewis, London.	G'd Supt.	London Dist.
" " "	James Canfield, Ingersoll,	"	Wilson "
" " "	Wm. Elliott, Elora,	"	Welling'n "
" " "	John M. Gibson, Hamilton,	"	Hamilton "
" " "	John Gibson, Stratford,	"	Huron "
" " "	R. Struthers, St. Catharines,	"	Niagara "
" " "	E. R. Carpenter, Collingwood,	"	Toronto "
" " "	J. H. Helm, Port Hope,	"	Ontario "
" " "	David Pitcaethley, Belleville,	"	P. Edward "
" " "	V. H. Moore, M.D., Brockville,	"	Central "
" " "	J. C. Hatheway, M.D., St. John,	"	New B. "
" " "	W. W. Kennedy, Winnipeg,	"	Manitoba "
" " "	Daniel Spry, Toronto,	Grand	Scribe E.
" " "	George Watson, Toronto,	"	Scribe N.
" " "	J. J. Mason, Hamilton,	"	Prin. Sojo'r.
" " "	David McLellan, Hamilton,	"	Treasurer.
" " "	Isaac Waterman, London,	"	Registrar.
V. " "	John Erskine, Toronto,	"	1st Asst. Sojo'r.
" " "	Rev. St. G. Caulfeild, Windsor,	"	2nd "
" " "	G. E. Elliott, St. Andrew, N.B.	"	Sword Bearer.
" " "	George Hopkins, Whitby,	"	Standard "
" " "	James Wilson, Toronto,	"	Dir. of Cer.
" " "	Archibald McMillan, Kingston,	"	Organist.
" " "	Charles S. Scott, Ottawa,	"	Pursuivant.
" " "	James Smith, Belleville,	}	" Stewards.
" " "	Mich. J. Houston, Chatham,		
" " "	James Noble, Strathroy,		
" " "	John Ferguson, Collingwood,		
" " "	W. W. Summers, Hamilton,	"	Janitor.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

PRESIDENT :

R. E. Comp. Thomas C. Macnabb, Grand H., Chatham.

M. E. Comp. T. Douglas Harington, P. G. Z. Ottawa.

“ “ “ S. Bickerton Harman, P. G. Z., Toronto.

“ “ “ C. D. Macdonell, P. G. Z., Peterboro.

“ “ “ James Seymour, P. G. Z., St. Catharines.

R. “ “ Donald Ross, Grand J., Picton.

GRAND SUPERINTENDENTS.

R. E. Comp. Robert Lewis, London, London District.

“ “ “ James Canfield, Ingersoll, Wilson District.

“ “ “ Wm. Elliott, Flora, Wellington District.

“ “ “ John M. Gibson, Hamilton, Hamilton District.

“ “ “ John Gibson, Stratford, Huron District.

“ “ “ R. Struthers, St. Catharines, Niagara District.

“ “ “ E. R. Carpenter, Collingwood, Toronto District.

“ “ “ J. H. Helm, Port Hope, Ontario District.

“ “ “ David Pitcaethley, Belleville, Prince Edward District.

“ “ “ V. H. Moore, M.D., Brockville, Central District.

“ “ “ J. C. Hatheway, M.D., St. John, New B. District.

“ “ “ W. W. Kennedy, Winnipeg, Manitoba District.

“ “ “ Daniel Spry, Grand Scribe E., Toronto, *ex officio*.

“ “ “ Geo. Watson, Grand Scribe N., Toronto, *ex officio*.

ELECTED BY GRAND CHAPTER.

R. E. Comp. W. H. Weller, Cobourg.

“ “ “ Henry Robertson, Collingwood.

“ “ “ Henry Macpherson, Owen Sound.

R. “ “ James B. Nixon, Toronto.

“ “ “ William Carey, London.

REPRESENTATIVES

IN THE GRAND CHAPTER OF CANADA.

M. E. Comp.	T. D. Harington,	from Grand Chapter of Tennessee.
" "	T. D. Harington,	" " Nova Scotia.
" "	T. D. Harington,	" " California.
" "	James Seymour,	" " Indiana.
R. "	James K. Kerr,	" " Scotland.
" "	David McLellan,	" " Georgia.
" "	R. Ramsay,	" " Nebraska.
" "	R. Ramsay,	" " Ohio.
" "	R. Ramsay,	" " Illinois.
" "	Henry Robertson,	" " Dis. of Col.
" "	Henry Robertson,	" " New York.
" "	Henry Robertson,	" " Mississippi.
" "	W. J. B. McLeod Moore,	" " Missouri.
" "	Daniel Spry,	" " New Jersey.
" "	Daniel Spry,	" " Quebec.
" "	E. M. Copeland,	" " Texas.
M. "	C. D. Macdonnell,	" " S. Carolina.
R. "	W. H. Weller,	" " Wisconsin.
" "	Henry Macpherson,	" " California.
" "	A. A. Stevenson,	" " Massachus'ts
" "	I. H. Stearns,	" " N.Hampsh'e.

FROM THE GRAND CHAPTER OF CANADA.

M. E. Comp.	W. H. McIlhanney,	in Grand Chapter of New Jersey.
R. "	John Laurie,	" " Scotland.
" "	George S. Blackie,	" " Tennessee.
" "	" "	" " Missouri.
" "	H. P. Deuel,	" " Nebraska.
" "	Chas. A. Woodward,	" " Ohio.
" "	John S. Bowen,	" " New York.
" "	William Brinsmaid,	" " Vermont.
" "	Jos. S. McCoy, M.D.,	" " Dis. of Col.
" "	James A. Miles,	" " Illinois.
" "	W. H. Tuller,	" " Georgia.
" "	Arthur Fletcher,	" " Nova Scotia.
" "	Louis Wiggin,	" " California.
" "	Richard D. Pulford,	" " Wisconsin.
M. "	James Kimball,	" " Massachus'ts
" "	A. H. Bartley,	" " Mississippi.
R. "	John A. Harris,	" " N.Hampsh'e.
M. "	Frederick Binckes,	Mark Lodge, England.

CORRESPONDING RANK AND TITLES OF OFFICERS.

Abstract from Report of Committee to whom was referred the question as to Titles of Officers in the Mark,
Past and Most Excellent Masters Degrees.

ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER.	M. E. MASTER'S LODGE.	PAST MASTER'S LODGE.	MARK MASTER'S LODGE.
1st Principal Z. } Ex. 2nd " H.. } Con'l. 3rd " J. Scribe E. " N. Treasurer. Prin. Sojourner. Senior " Junior " Master 4th Veil. " 3rd " " 2nd " " 1st " Dir. of Ceremonies. Organist. Stewards. Janitor.	M. E. Master. { Senior Warden. Junior " Secretary. Treasurer. Senior Deacon. Junior " Inner Guard. Dir. of Ceremonies. Organist. Stewards. Tyler.	R. W. Master. { Senior Warden. Junior " Secretary. Treasurer. Senior Deacon. Junior " Inner Guard. Master Overseer. Senior " Junior " Dir. of Ceremonies. Organist. Stewards. Tyler.	Brothers. Brothers. Brothers.

LONDON, Feb. 19th, 1862.

W. B. SIMPSON, *Chairman.*

GRAND CHAPTERS AND ADDRESSES OF GRAND OFFICERS.

GRAND CHAPTERS	GRAND HIGH PRIESTS.	GRAND SECRETARIES.	CHAIRMEN COM. CORRESPONDENCE.
Alabama,	James E. Cobb, Tuskegee.	Daniel Sayre, Montgomery.	Palmer J. Pillans, Mobile.
Arkansas,	E. R. Du Val, Fort Smith.	Luke E. Barber, Little Rock.	Chas. L. Wiggins, San Francisco.
California,	Alexander G. Abell, San Francisco.	Chas. L. Wiggins, San Francisco.	Henry Robertson, Collingwood.
Canada,	Fred. J. Menet, Toronto.	Daniel Spiry, Toronto.	Wm. N. Byers, Denver.
Colorado,	Irving W. Stanton, Pueblo.	Ed. C. Parmelee, Georgetown.	
Connecticut,	Henry W. Coje, Rockville.	Jos. K. Wheeler, Hartford.	
Delaware,	I. F. Myntek, Wilmington.	J. P. Allmond, Washington.	
Dis. of Columbia.	Isaac L. Johnson, Washington.	C. W. Hancock, Washington.	
Florida,	Luther J. Glenn, Atlanta.	DeWitt C. Dawkins, Jacksonville.	Noble D. Larnier, Washington.
Georgia,	Arthur R. H. Atkins, Chicago.	J. E. Blackshear, Macon.	John S. Driggs, Jacksonville.
Illinois,	Reuben Peden, Knightstown.	James H. Miles, Chicago.	Samuel Lawrence.
Indiana,	Horace S. Winslow, Newton.	J. M. Bramwell, Indianapolis.	Wm. Haeker, Shelbyville.
Iowa,	Dwight Byington, Leavenworth.	W. B. Langridge, Muscatine.	E. A. Gilbert, Dubuque.
Kansas,	James W. Staton, Brooksville.	Erasmus T. Carr, Leavenworth.	Erastus T. Carr, Leavenworth.
Kentucky,	Jas. H. DeGrange, New Orleans.	J. P. H. Branham, Louisville.	H. A. M. Henderson, Frankfort.
Louisiana,	Henry L. Paine, Portland.	James C. Rachelor, New Orleans.	J. C. Bachelor, M. D., New Orleans.
Maine,	H. L. Emmons, Jr., Baltimore.	Ira Berry, Portland.	J. H. Drummond, Portland.
Maryland,	S. B. Harrington, 447 Wash'n st., Boston.	William A. Wentz, Baltimore.	Hermion L. Emmons, Jr., Baltimore.
Massachusetts,	Oliver L. Spaulding, St. Johns.	Z. H. Thomas, Jr., Boston.	John W. Dadmun, Winthrop.
Michigan,	R. J. Marvin, Hastings.	William P. Innes, Grand Rapids.	Wm. P. Innes, Grand Rapids.
Minnesota,	Harvey W. Walter, Holly Springs.	A. T. C. Pierson, St. Paul.	A. T. C. Pierson, St. Paul.
Mississippi,	Joseph S. Browne, St. Joseph.	J. L. Power, Jackson.	Oliver Clifton.
Missouri,	Chas. F. Goodman, Omaha.	John W. Luke.	
Nebraska,	And. J. Thompson, Laconia.	William R. Boven, Omaha.	Daniel H. Wheeler, Plattsmouth.
New Hampshire,	Edward Goeller, Newark.	John A. Harris, Concord.	John J. Bell, Exeter.
New Jersey,	George Van Vliet, New York.	Thos. J. Corson, Trenton.	Thos. J. Corson, Trenton.
New York,	Thos. S. Kenan, Wilson.	Christopher G. Fox, Buffalo.	Darius A. Ogden, Penn Yan.
North Carolina,	Chas. J. Macdonald, Halifax.	D. W. Bain, Raleigh.	James Southgate, Hillsboro.
Nova Scotia,	Reub. C. Lemon, Toledo.	James Gossin, Halifax.	James Gossip, Halifax.
Ohio,	John B. Lee, Corvallis.	John R. Blackburn, Xenia.	Wm. Buechner, Youngstown.
Oregon,	Alfred R. Potter, Philadelphia.	R. P. Earhart, Salem.	T. McF. Patton, Salem.
Pennsylvania,	W. T. C. Wardwell, Bristol.	J. Thompson, Masonic Temple Phila.	Ed. R. Worrell.
Rhode Island,	William K. Blake, Spartanburg.	Wm. R. Green, Providence.	Geo. H. Burnham, Providence.
South Carolina,	A. S. Currey, Trenton.	J. E. Burke, Charleston.	J. E. Burke, Charleston.
Tennessee,	W. F. Swan, Galveston.	John Frizzell, Nashville.	John Fizzle, Nashville.
Texas,	Edward S. Dana, Cornwall.	Robert Brewster, Houston.	E. M. Elgin, Houston.
Vermont,	Wm. H. Lambert, Alexandria.	W. H. S. Whitcomb, Burlington.	J. M. Poland, Montpelier.
Virginia,	H. M. Gamble, Moorefield.	Wm. B. Isaacs, Richmond.	W. B. Isaacs, Richmond.
West Virginia,	William C. Swan, Milwaukee.	Odell S. Long, Wheeling.	Odell S. Long, Wheeling.
Wisconsin,		J. W. Woodhull, Berlin.	J. P. C. Cottrill, Milwaukee.
Gen. Grand Chap.		C. G. Fox, Buffalo.	

The Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada.

SUCCESSION OF GRAND OFFICERS FROM 1873 TO DATE.

RANK.	1872-3.	1873-4.	1874-5.	1875-6.	1876-7.	1877-8.
M. E. Grand 1st Prin. Z.	S. B. Harman.	C. D. Macdonnell.	James Seymour.	L. H. Henderson.	L. H. Henderson.	Frederick J. Menet.
R. " 2nd " H.	L. H. Henderson.	W. H. Weller.	W. H. Weller.	J. H. Stearnes.	Frederick J. Menet.	Thos. C. Macnabb.
" " 3rd " J.	J. Dunbar.	N. Gordon Bigelow.	R. Kincaid.	C. L. Beard.	C. L. Beard.	Donald Ross.
" " Scribe E.	Thos. Bird Harris.	Thos. Bird Harris.	R. P. Stephens.	Daniel Spry.	Daniel Spry.	Daniel Spry.
" " " N.	E. M. Copeland.	James Stevenson.	James B. Nixon.	E. R. Carpenter.	F. R. Despard.	George Watson.
" " Prin. Sojourner.	George C. Patterson.	William Reid.	Richard Brierley.	Gavin Stewart.	George Creeggan.	J. J. Mason.
" " Treasurer.	David McLellan.	David McLellan.	David McLellan.	David McLellan.	David McLellan.	David McLellan.
" " Registrar.	Ralph A. Woodcock.	Ethelbert Servos.	John Satebell.	William Kerr.	Joshua G. Barnes.	Isaac Waterman.
V. " 1st Ass. Sojourner	David Denoon.	D. Pitcaethley.	Geo. S. Oldrieve.	James Norris.	Isaac Waterman.	John Erskine.
" " 2nd " "	H. G. Taylor.	A. H. Chantler.	Chauncey Bennett.	William Yovng.	V. H. Moore, M. D.	Rev. St. Geo. Caulfield.
" " Sword Bearer.	E. H. Fauquier.	John Satchell.	W. H. Walkem.	J. N. Carter.	William Kerr.	Geo. Edmund Elliott.
" " Standard Bearer.	James Stephenson.	John Erskine.	Thos. Parkinson.	H. A. Baxter.	George Watson.	George Hopkins.
" " Dir of Ceremonies	Wm. H. Weller.	H. G. Summer.	Henry Duffell.	James B. Neff.	John Fisher.	James Wilson.
" " Organist.	Fred. Mudge.	William Nivin.	W. C. Morrison.	W. J. Palmer, M. D.	R. H. Green.	Archibald McMillan.
" " Pursuivant.	Wm. H. Porter.	W. Chatfield.	J. G. A. LeBlanc.	James Canfield.	S. M. Conger.	Charles S. Scott.
" " Steward.	David Wright.	William Habbick.	John O'Donnell.	M. Gilbranson.	James Martin.	James Smith.
" " " "	William Braund.	Alex. M. Brown.	C. E. S. Black.	W. H. Walkem.	H. Wood.	Mich. J. Houston.
" " " "	John E. Harding.	James B. Nixon.	John Gibson.	C. H. Sorley.	S. S. Lazier.	James Noble.
" " " "	Thos. C. Macnabb.	John E. Brooke.	Geo. W. Morgan.	James Somerville.	J. Corliss.	John Ferguson.
" " Janitor.	Edward Ball.	John Sweetman.	R. Ratcliffe.	Ben' n. Baker.	F. J. Hood.	W. W. Summers.

R. E. GRAND SUPERINTENDENTS OF DISTRICTS.

London District.	William Carey.	Thos. C. Macnabb.	James O'Connor.	George E. Murphy.	A. G. Smyth.	Robert Lewis.
Wilson District.	Charles L. Beard.	Charles L. Beard.	John Wilson, M. D.	Chauncey Bennett.	A. W. Francis.	James Canfield.
Hamilton District.	Edward Mitchell.	John Parry.	Henry Carlisle.	Henry Carlisle.	Richard Brierley.	John M. Gibson.
Huron District.	Isaac F. Toms.	Isaac F. Toms.	Isaac F. Toms.	Isaac F. Toms.	C. L. F. Campbell.	John Gibson.
Toronto District.	Daniel Spry.	Daniel Spry.	W. H. Porter.	J. W. H. Wilson.	R. J. Hovenden.	E. R. Carpenter.
Ontario District.	Geo. H. Dartwell.	Peter Begg.	Peter Begg.	Peter Begg.	J. H. Helm.	J. H. Helm.
Prince Edward District.	Donald Ross.	H. L. Geddes.	David " enoon.	William Doctor.	Alfred Ellis.	David Pitcaethley.
Central District.	John J. Genmill.	Robert Hendry.	James Stephenson.	W. M. Somerville.	W. M. Somerville.	V. H. Moore, M. D.
New Brunswick District.	D. R. Munro.	J. C. Hatheway, M. D.	J. C. Hatheway, M. D.	J. C. Hatheway, M. D.	J. C. Hatheway, M. D.	J. C. Hatheway, M. D.
Montreal District.	J. H. Stearnes.	E. M. Copeland.	E. M. Copeland.	Frank Edgar.	J. T. McMin.	Joined G. Chapter Que.
Eastern Township District.	H. W. Wood, M. D.	H. W. Wood, M. D.	W. G. Parnlee.	H. W. Wood, M. D.	H. W. Wood, M. D.	do. do.
Quebec District.	H. J. Pratton.	H. J. Pratton.	H. J. Pratton.	H. J. Pratton.	H. J. Pratton.	do. do.
Wellington District.				W. D. Hepburn.	W. D. Hepburn.	William Elliott.
Niagara District.					James B. Neff.	R. Struthers.
Manitoba District.		James Henderson.	James Henderson.	James Henderson.	James Henderson.	W. W. Kennedy.

ERRATA.

REPORT ON FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

- Page 135, line 22, "Chapter," should be "Chapters."
" 137, " 16, "possession," " " "possessor,"
" 137, " 31, "came," " " "come "
" 144, " 39, "Web-Preston," " " "Webb-Preston."
" 156, " 32, "apoligize," " " "apologize."
" 176, " 25, "correspondance," should be "correspondence."
" 178, last line, "Requiscat in peace," " " "Requescat in pace."
" 182, line 9, "numercial," " " "numerical."
" 206, " 17, "beneficient," " " "beneficent."

APPENDIX.

REPORT

—ON—

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE FOR 1877.

To the M. E. Grand Z. and the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada :—

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence beg leave to present the following Report, being the *tenth* annual Review prepared by the present Committee.

We have received from the Grand Scribe E. the proceedings of twenty-four Grand Chapters, which will be noticed in the usual order.

The following Table gives the place and date of meeting, and the names of the newly elected officers of each Grand Chapter noticed in the Report :—

GRAND CHAPTERS REVIEWED IN 1877.

Ann Con	NAME.	Where Held.	Date.	Grand High Priest.	Grand Secretary
50th	Alabama	Montgomery	Dec. 5, 1876	Jas. E. Cobb	Daniel Sayre.
27th	Arkansas	Little Rock.	Oct. 5, 1876	E. R. DuVal	L. E. Barber.
2nd	Colorado	Denver	Sep. 21, 1876	G. W. Stanton	E. C. Parmelee.
9th	Delaware	Wilmington.	Jan. 17, 1877	J. F. Mynich	J. P. Allmond.
10th	Dist. Columbia..	Washington.	Dec. 13, 1876	G. S. Johnson	C. W. Hancock.
54th	Georgia	Macon	Apr. 26, 1876	Luther J. Glenn	J. E. Blackshear.
27th	Illinois	Chicago	Oct. 26, 1876	A. R. H. Atkins	Jas. H. Miles.
31st	Indiana	Indianapolis	Oct. 18, 1876	Reuben Peden	J. M. Bramwell.
23rd	Iowa	Des Moines..	Oct. 3, 1876	H. S. Winslow	W. B. Langridge.
12th	Kansas	Emporia	Oct. 17, 1876	D. Byington	E. T. Carr.
61st	Kentucky	Louisville ..	Oct. 16, 1876	J. W. Staton	J. H. Branham.
30th	Louisiana	New Orleans	Feb. 13, 1877	J. H. DeGrange	J. C. Batchelor.
..	Massachusetts ..	Boston	Dec. 12, 1876	S. B. Harrington	Z. H. Thomas, Jr.
25th	Michigan	Detroit	Jan. 16, 1877	O. L. Spaulding	W. P. Innes
29th	Mississippi	Vicksburg ..	Feb. 5, 1877	H. W. Walter	J. L. Power.
30th	Missouri	St. Louis	Oct. 5, 1876	J. S. Browne .....	.....
..	New Hampshire.	Concord	May 16, 1876	A. J. Thompson	J. A. Harris.
20th	New Jersey	Trenton	Sep. 13, 1876	Ed. Goeller	T. J. Corson.
50th	New York	Albany	Feb. 6, 1877	Geo. Van. Vliet	C. G. Fox.
..	Pennsylvania ..	Philadelphia	Dec. 27, 1876	A. R. Potter	John Thomson.
66th	South Carolina..	Charleston ..	Feb. 13, 1877	William K. Blake	J. E. Burke.
27th	Texas	Houston	June 7, 1876	W. F. Swain	R. Brewster.
4 & 5	West Virginia ..	Wheeling	Nov. 11, 1875	H. M. Gamble	O. S. Long.
26th	Wisconsin	Milwaukee ..	Feb. 15, 1876	Wm. C. Swain	J. W. Woodhull.

ALABAMA.

M. E. Comp. James E. Cobb delivered a brief address, from which we learn with deep regret that the condition of the Craft in that jurisdiction is still rather unfavourable. We trust that ere long the sun of prosperity will shed its benign influence over that beautiful southern land, and that its rays of light and encouragement will shortly dispel all gloom and darkness, and restore our beloved fraternity to its former flourishing condition.

Comp. Cobb says :—

“From such information as I have been able to gather without extensive official visitation—and such privilege I have not enjoyed—I regret that I cannot report of the condition of the Order as favourably as could be wished. The past decade has been a time of supreme trial to every interest of our Southern land. Its history will remain unwritten—if properly written it would not receive credence beyond our borders. Depressing influences, in shapes and power almost protean, have visited us, and have left the impress of these visitations upon communities everywhere. Masonry has not escaped these influences. The love of many has waxed cold, as evidenced by our records, bearing as they do, from year to year, the blot of a long list of suspensions. Others again have ceased to attend the convocations of their Chapters. And in this failure on the part of the existing membership, we detect an evil of no light magnitude ; for I am constrained to believe that in very many of our Chapters the attendance at stated convocations is exceedingly irregular.

“It is even questionable if some Chapters would not find it unsafe to submit their records to close scrutiny, to determine whether they have not forfeited their charters by failure to assemble as required by the by-laws of this Grand Chapter.

“In suffering this state of things to exist, Companions grievously err, doing violence to the principles they profess. Before the world it is claimed for Masonry that it holds a high mission—that its principles are pure and ennobling.

“The initiate is thus taught. He enters our portals to receive at every step in his progress through our mysteries, by precept and impressive symbolism, lessons calculated and designed to lead by their observance to higher aspirations and purer living. He is not only to curb his passions, keeping them ever in due bounds, but he is to become active in doing good to all men, and particularly to his brethren. In the frequent and unreserved intercourse of the chapter room, the earnest Companion finds the stimulant and aid to the development of Masonic virtues ; and from

the sympathy of congenial spirits there interchanged, strength for conflict and endurance. And there, too, and there only, can he acquire thorough knowledge and appreciation of our beautiful Ritual. Its excellencies and sublime teachings are revealed alone to the thoughtful and attentive.

“Companions, let me exhort you, and through you the membership throughout the jurisdiction, to a more punctual attendance upon the convocations of your Chapters. Go hence resolved to awaken and stimulate zeal in this regard. To become Masons true and tried, and to continue in the good way, you must needs frequently come within the glow of your altar fires and receive their warmth.”

A silver service set was presented by the Grand Chapter to Comp. Myles J. Greene, P. G. H. P. Elegant and appropriate speeches were made on the occasion.

The Committee on Work exemplified the Mark and Royal Arch Degrees.

The following resolution was adopted :—

“*Resolved*—That the representative of the Grand Chapter in the next Triennial Convocation of the General Grand Chapter of the United States be, and he is hereby instructed to oppose any and all efforts that may be made by way of amendments to the Constitution, or otherwise, to enlarge the powers of the General Grand Chapter over the State Grand Chapter.”

The report on correspondence is by Comp. P. J. Pillans. Canada for 1875 receives a good notice.

There are forty-four Chapters, returning 50 exaltations and 1,120 members. Dues received, \$768.00.

ARKANSAS.

The Grand High Priest, M. E. Comp. E. H. DuVal, delivered an interesting address. No new Chapters were established during the year, but Comp. DuVal is of opinion that hitherto the number of Chapters created each year was in excess of the Masonic population, and that many of these Chapters have succumbed for want of material to keep them up. His remarks on this subject conclude as follows :—

“Few of the inexperienced Craftsmen know of the actual requirements of a Chapter, and hence it too often happens that dispensations are asked

for and granted which time demonstrates to have been premature. Die they must, die they will, and die they do. It may be the Royal Craft have learned the truth of the case, and have, during the year, promoted the real interests of the institution, by discouraging *the effort to establish new subordinates*. Other causes may have operated to check the too rapid increase of Chapters, such as the stringency of the money market, and the natural diversion created by the many and varied celebrations of the Centennial year—the laudable and almost general desire of the Craftsmen to join the myriad throng paying its homage to its country's greatness at the Centennial Mecca.

“It should be the policy—it ought to be the principle—of action with the Chapters already in existence to make themselves stronger and better—stronger in the exhibit of practical morality, and better in their ability to impress teachings of Capitular Masonry. A lifeless Chapter begets drooes, and drooes in Masonry beget absolute worthlessness, and worthlessness of necessity leads to the death of the organization. Life and activity beget life and interest. It works out the problem of success, and, with this established, the Chapter flourisheth as the ‘Rose of Sharon.’”

He mentions the death of Comp. G. W. Laughinghouse, Past Grand Scribe, who was an active, energetic worker and well beloved by all who knew him.

Shortly after the last Annual Convocation the manuscript proceedings were destroyed by fire in the printing office. The Grand Secretary, under the advice of the G. H. P., made up the record from memory, in a very creditable manner, leaving nothing material unnoticed.

Comp. DuVal closes his address by some well chosen remarks on the necessity of fostering and encouraging the Masonic literature of the day :—

“A Chapter must advance or retrograde. There is no stand-still in Masonry. Its votaries grow better, or they retrograde into a state worse than ignorance. They must improve in knowledge or lapse into darkness.”

The sum of \$300 was appropriated to assist in sustaining St. John's College.

There were no appeals or grievances.

The work was partly exemplified.

The Lectures were given by M. E. Comp. E. H. English, the present General Grand High Priest.

The Committee on Masonic Law and Usage made the following report, which was adopted :—

“Your Committee on Masonic Law and Usage, to whom was referred the question whether a convocation of actual Past Masters should allow virtual Past Masters to be present when the order is conferred in convocation upon a Master elect of a Lodge, have had the same under consideration, and are of opinion that this Grand Chapter has no jurisdiction over convocations of actual Past Masters in such case, and, therefore, has no power to decide what actual Past Masters should do. We know of nothing in this degree, as conferred in the Chapter, which would prevent a virtual Past Master from being present in a convocation on such an occasion if the actual Past Masters’ permit.”

The first part of this report is quite correct. The Grand Chapter has certainly no jurisdiction in the premises. But the last paragraph, according to our practice, is quite wrong. The degrees with us are totally distinct, and the possession of either has no right to be present at meetings of the other.

We also copy the following report with marked approval :—

“Your Committee to whom was referred so much of the Grand High Priest’s address as relates to Masonic literature, beg leave to report that they have had the same under consideration, and, in view of its importance, would most respectfully and fraternally indorse all that he has said on the subject, and most earnestly recommend the reading of Masonic literature, the subscribing for and reading of Masonic periodicals by the Companions of this jurisdiction; for, as he has said, they are cheap enough to be accessible to the poorest. While we would not exhibit a partiality, we would call attention to the *Masonic Jewel*, published at Memphis by Comp. A. J. Wheeler.”

There is no report on correspondence.

COLORADO.

The proceedings of this lively young sister came to us in a very neat pamphlet, which bears the imprint of the *Rocky Mountain News* Steam Printing House, Denver and, as far as typography is concerned, it is ahead of many older jurisdictions.

Representatives were present from all the chartered Chapters, seven in number.

We copy the first paragraph of the address of Comp. W. N.

Byers, G. H. P., from which it appears that they are starting with excellent prospects, and have been generally recognized by the other Grand Chapters :—

“COMPANIONS,—Another year has passed into history, and we are again assembled in Grand Convocation. It has been a year of peace and quiet within our sacred tabernacles, as well as in all the Masonic organizations within our jurisdiction. If we have made but little growth, we have also to mourn no great disaster or discouragement. Hard times and stagnation in business must naturally have a depressing influence upon Masonic prosperity, as well as upon everything else. Yet our subordinate Chapters have all made more or less growth, and in some of them the increase of membership has been very gratifying. Since the organization of our Grand Chapter death has not invaded its portals, and I believe that in the last year not one member of our subordinate Chapters has been called from earth. Nor has plague, famine or pestilence visited our borders; everybody is reasonably prosperous, and our Chapters are believed each to be in easy circumstances financially. Certainly, in these blessings, we have enough for which to be grateful to the great I Am, and to Him let us render all our thanks and praise.

“Our Grand Chapter has been most warmly welcomed to the sisterhood of Grand Chapters by all whose reports have reached our hands. Their words of good cheer will doubtless find place in the report of the able Committee upon Foreign Correspondence.”

It was resolved that the degrees could not be conferred upon a Mason who had lost one arm.

The following report was adopted :—

“Your Committee on Jurisprudence, to whom was referred the resolution regarding the status of Companions whose names are borne upon the rolls of two Chapters, etc., beg leave to report that they have had the same under consideration, and would offer the following resolution :—

“*Resolved*—That Companion Royal Arch Masons in this jurisdiction, whose names are borne upon the rolls of two different Chapters, or non-dimitted Companions acting as members of two or more Chapters in this jurisdiction, are members of the Chapters in which they were first received or exalted until regularly dimitted therefrom, and their names should be stricken from the rolls of all other Chapters upon which their names are borne; except those Companions whose names are written upon the faces of the charters of new Chapters that have been organized within this jurisdiction, who are hereby declared to have been dimitted from their former Chapters in this jurisdiction by virtue of such charters.”

With us there is no restriction as to the number of Chapters to which a Companion may belong.

A Committee on Work was appointed.

Comp. Ed. C. Parmelee has effectually disbarred himself from becoming a member of the Mutual Admiration Society, as witness the opening of his report on correspondence :—

“The addresses and reports are all good, very good, very able, highly interesting first-rate, very masterly, etc., etc., so we will leave these words off, when we come to each address or report.”

Otherwise his *very interesting* and *valuable* report would entitle him to an elevated position among “ye correspondents.” Canada for 1875 is noticed.

DELAWARE.

These proceedings are very brief and require no special notice. The G. H. P. visited four Chapters out of the six in the jurisdiction, and reports them working in good order, though not making many members.

We regret that the illness of the Grand Secretary for over six months prevented him from making the usual extended report on correspondence. The reception is noticed of a number of proceedings, among which we find Canada for 1876. The Committee conclude as follows :—

“Time, inexorable time alone prevents us from presenting to you many of the beautiful expressions that we have found in the different documents that we have looked into. Yes, that is the word, looked into, for we could not read them all, it was a glance and then to the next. We observe, however, that we were kindly mentioned by the majority. Some have objected to our having made our Grand Chaplain a permanent member. We forgive them, and shall ask our Grand Chaplain to remember them in his prayers, when he prays for the conversion of the heathens.

“We think no one, unless he has a cast-iron conscience, would object to having Grand Chaplains permanent members. We shall insist that some of the Missionary Societies, instead of sending their labourers beyond the seas, make a special effort to enlighten these, our benighted brethren at home.”

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

At the Semi-Annual Convocation in June, 1876, Comp. L. G. Stephens tendered his resignation as Grand Secretary, in consequence of his removal from the jurisdiction, and Comp. C. W. Hancock was appointed to succeed him.

A Special Convocation was held on October 22nd, 1876, to attend the funeral of Comp. J. E. F. Holmead, P. G. H. P.

Comp. Geo. B. Clark in his annual address gives a sketch of the Masonic career of Comp. Holmead, who was the first G. H. P. of the district, and was greatly esteemed and respected. He recommends that a Chapter of Sorrow be held, and says :—

“ Having long felt the great need of some more definite and fixed ceremony to commemorate the death of a member of our Order by the Chapters, I have, so far as I could, brought it to the attention of the Chapters, and am happy to report with marked success. Much to the honour of Lafayette Chapter, they have almost from their organization held a Chapter of Sorrow to honour the memory of their dead, adopting for their use the ritual and ceremonies that have been in use in England for more than a century.

“ On the 30th of March last, in company with the officers and members of the other Chapters, I was invited to be present and join with them in a Chapter of Sorrow to honour the memory of one of their dead. I was very much gratified at witnessing the services, so impressively conducted by the M. E. High Priest and officers of that Chapter, much interest being added to the occasion by the appropriate music rendered during the services by the choir of that Chapter. The expressions of approval were unanimous by all present, and I think every one felt that the evening had been profitably spent ; that the influence of the services of the evening would live with each one long after they should leave that hallowed place and mingle again with the world. I think the services as conducted by that Chapter very appropriate for general use, enough to meet the object desired, and not so long as to be tiresome.”

We also make the following extracts from this address :—

“ Entering upon the discharge of the high duties to which you called me one year ago, I found everything pertaining to the subordinate Chapters in the best possible condition, and am happy to report that the intelligence and ability of the officers and members of the Chapters has required nothing at my hands but pleasant duties. * * *

“ I have visited all the Chapters as often during the year as my other

duties would permit. And it affords me great pleasure to report the uniformity of work as exhibited by the officers of the several Chapters, and the great excellence as shown by some of the officers in conferring all the degrees, charges and all, orally, adding very much to the interest and impressiveness of the same. * * *

"The Grand Representative of this Grand Chapter to Canada, R. E. Companion Henry Robertson, visited our jurisdiction in August last. I had the pleasure of meeting with him and exchanging fraternal courtesies. I had also the great pleasure of meeting and forming the acquaintance of the Grand Zerubbabel of Canada, M. E. Companion Henderson, who honoured our city with a short visit in the month of September, accompanied by his wife and daughter. * * *

"At the First Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter there was a membership returned of 498. This, the Tenth Annual Convocation, there is a membership of 1,076. And I congratulate the Grand Chapter, not only upon the large increase, but also upon the general intelligence and ability that pervade the entire membership."

The following amendment to the Constitution was laid over until the next meeting :—

"That this Grand Chapter will adhere to the rule not to appoint or receive any Companion as Representative unless he shall have attained the rank of High Priest, or is a member of his respective Grand Chapter."

On the subjects mentioned in the circular from Mississippi, a special Committee presented a full report, which we copy entire, as it will be found interesting and instructive :—

"The Committee to which was referred the communication from J. L. Power, Grand Recorder of the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Mississippi makes the following report :—

"We find in the report of the special Committee as set forth in the above-mentioned paper several points so different in themselves that we must make a subdivision and discuss their merits separately.

"First. We observe that the Royal Arch degree is supposed to be 'stripped of most of its real beauties by the severance of the Royal and Select degrees from it,' and, therefore, it is asserted by the Committee, 'proves of little attraction to its recipient.' who 'then seeks no further advancement in Ancient Free Masonry.'

"It is the opinion of your Committee that the Royal and Select degrees should be so *attached* to the Royal Arch as to constitute parts of the Capitular system, and be to that as the Master Mason is to the Blue-

degrees, or. as they are sometimes called, 'symbolic.' But in recommending this, we must give the reasons which induced this opinion :

“ In our investigations into the whole *rationale* of the Masonic system, we firmly believe that those who instituted the graduated plan were thus impelled by their knowledge of the peculiarities of the human mind in its efforts to arrive at ultimate TRUTH. The question arises in the mind of the educator, How shall I stimulate the mental energies of my pupils? A German philosopher said, ' Were I to be given the choice whether to know the Truth or to search for it, I would choose the latter.' Here we have, in a few words, the answer for the Masonic system since 1730. Believing this, trusting in this, we think the steps of Masonry from the Entered Apprentice to the Select degree to be a most proper succession to convey to the mind of the enquirer what is really intended in the whole system. First, light, as a symbol of truth ; second, more light ; and, third, perfect light ; and such the third degree was before the Royal Arch degree was instituted and 'lapped on' to those who had passed the chair.

“ When the Royal Arch was introduced into England by Ramsey, and in due time was added to the 'curriculum' in the Grand Lodge of England, the third degree was altered to suit the arrangement, and something was *lost* that it might be *recovered* in the Arch. The next addition was, to account for the how, when, where and for what purpose the deposit was made.

“ Perhaps we have now shown enough to the astute to indicate why the Select degree should *not* be antecedent to the Royal Arch. Every revelation in Masonry is only a reveilment ; that which it purports to discover is only a *veil* in front of some other *truth*, to be again the object of further search, and the question is, How far shall we go to discover ultimate Truth ?

“ In view of these reasons, it is our opinion that the Select degree should succeed the Royal Arch. As to the *body* in which it should hold its obedience, it is a matter somewhat of taste or convenience. Within the memory of this Committee, the Royal Master and Select degrees have had various masters, and our best writers are very uncertain as to their paternity. In 1817 the authority was given by Philip P. Eckel, of Baltimore, to Jeremy L. Cross, to confer the Select, by a duly executed warrant, a photograph copy of the original being in the possession of one of this Committee, a copy of which is herewith appended.

“ It has been conceded that Companion Eckels controlled the degree, and it is to be observed that it was to be conferred only on Royal Arch Masons ; yet, strange to say, after his death, the Grand Chapter of Maryland took possession of that degree (in 1824) and also the Royal Master,* and conferred them upon those who had not received the Royal Arch, and

so continued to do until very recently, when the Grand Council of Maryland was organized.

“Some time after the propagation of the Select degree by J. L. Cross, Councils and Grand Councils were established, especially in the West, South-West and South. These continued for a season, and, no doubt, for the reasons assigned by the Committee of the Mississippi Grand Council, they gradually went into decline until a short time prior to 1848. The General Grand Chapter granted charters to Chapters in States, where there were no Grand Chapters, with authority to confer these two degrees only upon Royal Arch Masons. The Chairman of this Committee was King of a Chapter in Missouri, whose charter permitted Councils of the Royal and Select to be opened to confer those degrees on Royal Arch Masons. Again, since that time, subordinate Councils arose, and Grand Councils were created; and now nearly every State and Territory has a Grand Council, with its subordinates.

“It is the opinion of this Committee that the ‘wave’ will soon descend again, and many Councils will become extinct, the Grand Councils die for want of representatives, and then a change may be effected to place these two invaluable degrees, under the control of the State Grand Chapters, in the position they formerly occupied, to be conferred only on Royal Arch Masons, until which time, they are like the tares among the wheat, and we, like good husbandmen, must await the harvest ere we attempt to separate them from their present connection.

“2nd. With the views of that Committee in regard to the splitting of degrees we do not altogether concur, because it is our conviction that in all systems of education, of which Masonry is one, subdivision is not only necessary, but is an invaluable help to the memory; but we are not altogether advised as to what may be meant by the ‘splitting,’ which is the ‘crying evil of our order.’ We concur as to the evil of the multiplication of grand bodies, and in the matter of the Royal and Select, would be glad to have them under the control of the Grand Chapters, to be conferred after exaltation. We concur also in the matter of the Past Master’s degree, and would cheerfully consent to return to the practice of this jurisdiction as it was at an early day, and that also of Maryland† until quite recently, and drop it from the curriculum as being unnecessary, troublesome and sometimes mischievous. We are not advised as to how the Most Excellent Master’s degree could be blended with that of the Master Mason. But from our present view of the latter degree, any blending whatever would spoil that degree for the purposes for which it was evidently designed; and how an event as narrated in the Most Excellent, when the Temple was dedicated, could be blended with the *legend* of the third, which was before the completion of the Temple, occurs to us as being too manifest an *anachronism* even for *Masonic* tradition. On this point, therefore, we must be silent, or start out with an original suggestion,

a matter not contemplated in the appointment of this Committee. Neither can we concur in blending the Royal and Select Master's degrees with the Royal Arch, for the best of reasons ; that the two legends are laid 470 years apart, and even *Masonic* imaginations could not make them synchronize. We moreover believe that where we design to instruct the candidate by symbols, either to the eye or by dramatic representations, the concrete should be employed rather than the abstract, and no degree should contain more than one allegorical representation : The unities should be preserved, for few minds are capable of comprehending more than one truth at a time.

“ 3rd. That portion referring to Committees on foreign correspondence and reports of proceedings, we cannot recommend in this report, as the Companions of this jurisdiction have fully satisfied themselves as to the real merits and great value of those means by which they have been so greatly edified, instructed and improved. In this, too, much is due to taste and the desire for information as to the transactions of our corresponding bodies in Masonry. It is our opinion that our great prosperity, enterprise and cultivation, in every branch of science and art in this country, are mainly due to the general dissemination of knowledge among the people. Then in Masonic matters, why not cultivate the same methods for the dissemination of Masonic knowledge ? In this jurisdiction, both in the Grand Lodge and in the Grand Chapter, every brother or companion, who desires, can and does obtain a copy of the annual proceedings ; hence in Washington city are to be found as intelligent Masons as in any country on the globe.

“ 4th. We think there are other purposes in Masonry than erecting ‘grand charities,’ and yet the latter may not be neglected. From our published reports we have learned that in those jurisdictions where has been the most liberality in the one direction will be found a corresponding liberality in the other.

“ As to the last paragraph, we confess that when Utopia shall have been presented before us, we may then anticipate that happy time of ‘uniformity of work,’ and ‘recall the ancient charges and regulations,’ and make the Mason of every clime confer the same degree and speak the same Masonic language. We fear, however, that so long as each and every one claims himself to have the only *true* and ancient *work*, that it will be as difficult to accomplish that purpose, as it was after such a ‘happy meeting’ had taken place in Baltimore in 1842, when, in five years subsequent thereto, there was to be found in this country a Web-Preston work, a Cross work, a Moore work, a John Dove work, and in some jurisdictions a little of all these blended. If conventions can establish uniformity they cannot maintain it.

“ In conclusion, we offer the following :

“*Resolved*, That it is the opinion of this Grand Chapter that the Royal and Select degrees should be conferred upon no one beneath the dignity of a Royal Arch Mason.

“*Resolved*, That it is desirable that these two degrees should be controlled by regular Chapters of Royal Arch Masons, under the sanction of the Grand Chapters.

“*Resolved*, That it is the opinion of this Grand Chapter, that the Past Master's degree should be dropped from the list of Capitular degrees, as unnecessary in the Chapter.

“*Resolved*, That should the measures proposed by the Grand Council of Mississippi be generally adopted, this Grand Chapter will also enter into the same arrangements to have uniformity, reserving the right in regard to the order of the degrees.

WILLIAM R. SINGLETON.

NOBLE D. LARNER.

DAVID WILLS.

* The Royal Master was not known at the South and South-West at an early day, but came from the North, and was a later introduction, at what time, we may learn more definitely, from a forthcoming work by our distinguished Companion, Josiah H. Drummond, who has made important discoveries as to that and the select degree.

† The first constitution of Maryland and District of Columbia which we can find, published in 1824, does not admit the Past Master's degree in the list. In the constitution of the same body for 1846 it is also omitted.

[COPY.]

To all whom it may concern :

“Imprest with a perfect conviction that the knowledge of the mysteries to the degree of Royal Arch are eminently promoted by a knowledge of those revealed in the *in the* Council of Select Masons ; and whereas the said degree of Select is not so extensively known as its wants and the good of the craft require—

“Therefore know ye, That reposing especial confidence in my beloved and trusty Companion Jeremy L. Cross, I do hereby, by the high powers in me vested, authorise and empower him to confer the said degree as follows, (viz. :) In any place where a regular Chapter of Royal Arch Masons is established, the officers or members approving, he may confer said degree according to its rules and regulations, but only on Royal Arch Masons who have taken all the preceding degrees, as is required by the G. G. Chapter. When a competent number of Select Masons are thus made, he may grant them a warrant to open a Council of Select and confer the degree, and do all other business appertaining thereto.

“Given under my hand and seal at Baltimore the 27th day of May, A. D. 1817, and in the year of the Dis. 2817.

PHILIP P. ECKEL,

Thrice Illustrious and Grand Puisant in the Grand Council of Select at Baltimore, and approved as G. G. Scribe.

H. NILES,*

Approved and attested as Ill. in the G. Council.”

* Editor of the “Niles Register.”

On motion of Comp. Appleton the report and resolutions were received and adopted.

We approve of the third of the above resolutions, and would be glad to see the P. M. degree dropped from the Chapter. As to the others, we, as Royal Arch Masons, know nothing of the Royal and Select degrees. No doubt the multiplication of Grand Bodies is an evil, but so is the multiplication of degrees, and we are not yet prepared to make any addition to the number of degrees now worked in the Chapter. To do this effectively another grand officer will, no doubt, be required, with the title and duties of a Grand *Professor of Mnemonics*, to aid and assist the struggling aspirant for Masonic distinction to remember all his various engagements and obligations. By the way, does not the A. and A. Rite, 33°, claim these degrees, or something very like them, as a part of that system? If so, please let the A. and A. Rite, 33°, have them, and we'll all be happy. Grand Councils will cease to exist; Grand Chapters will have no excuse for attempting “appropriations of other people's belongings;” and the Scottish Rite will have advanced one step nearer to perfection.

Comp. E. B. MacGrotty has a very good report on correspondence, in which the Proceedings of Canada for 1875 and 1876 receive due notice. We regret that he finds himself compelled, by other engagements, to decline further service in this capacity. His reports have always been well prepared. He will be succeeded by Comp. N. D. Larner, P. G. H. P.

GEORGIA.

These Proceedings have come to hand after our Report was closed, so that we have only time to make a few extracts without comment.

Comp. Luther J. Glenn, G. H. P., reports peace and quiet in the jurisdiction. His decisions were as follows :—

“1st. That a non-affiliated Blue Lodge Mason can hold his membership in the Chapter ; in other words, that a demit from a Blue Lodge does not sever connection with the Chapter.

“2nd. That no business of a Chapter, (except the conferring of degrees,) can be transacted in any other than the Royal Arch Degree.

“3rd. That a Chapter cannot entertain the petition of a minister of the gospel for the degrees unaccompanied with the usual fees ; but after the reception of the degrees the Chapter can make him any such donation as in its wisdom may be deemed proper.

“4th. I have received applications during the year to grant dispensations for Chapters to ballot for candidates under circumstances of emergency, at the first reading of their petitions. Controlled by the 7th section of the 2nd article of the constitution of the Grand Chapter, I have been reluctantly compelled to withhold such dispensations.”

The Ladies Memorial Society invited the Grand Chapter, as a body, to attend the annual celebration in honor of the Confederate Dead, which invitation was unanimously accepted by the Grand Chapter. It was decided that they should attend in a body, but not clothed as Masons. The proceedings on Memorial Day are thus given :—

“The officers and members of the Grand Chapter assembled in Grand Lodge Hall at half past three o'clock, P. M., and in a body, yet displaying none of the insignia of Masonry, proceeded to Rose Hill Cemetery, where a large concourse of citizens and soldiers, ladies and gentlemen, youths, maidens fair, and children, joyous and bright, had assembled, in conformity to a beautiful custom—a custom conceived in the deep devotion of woman's affection, and established in obedience to the noblest impulses of the human heart, to pay grateful yet mournful tribute to the memory of brave men and true, who, struggling with a heroism unsurpassed, in the defence of a cause dearer to them than life, went down to their graves covered over with wreaths of unfading glory ;

“True patriots, who their country's call
So promptly, gallantly, obeyed ;

Who, for her glory, their life's all
 On Freedom's holy altar laid ;
 And dying for the now lost cause,
 Won, nobly won, the world's applause.

“ It is not my purpose here, even if it were possible, to add aught to the glowing eulogy pronounced on these brave defenders by the distinguished and gifted orator of the occasion, Captain John C. Rutherford, whose genuine eloquence moved the hearts of the assembled multitude, and made vocal with merited exaltation and praise the verdant grove around. Let us, therefore, with hearts softened and purified by the touching ceremony of the occasion, turn from the fairy-like scene—a scene, indeed, of enchanting loveliness, of hills and dales, of bubbling fountains, lakes, and sparkling rills, and fragrant groves whose canopy of green, soft shadows cast upon the hallowed ground where sleep the braves, and where bright flowers, the first and purest offerings of the spring, in rich profusion scattered lie, their odors sweet to heaven like incense rising—the beautiful and appropriate tribute of lovely woman.

“ And thus, as time rolls on, each Spring
 That comes with its revolving year,
 Will beauty here her tribute bring
 Of buds and flow'rs ; here drop a tear
 For fallen braves ; aye, and as well,
 The glorious cause in which they fell.”

The Grand Chapter of Colorado was recognized.

A standing edict of the Grand Chapter forbids the conferring of the Chapter degrees on unaffiliated brethren. A resolution to abolish this edict was lost. We think it should have been carried.

A distinguished visitor was present in the person of Charles S. Stratton, of Jerusalem Chapter, No. 13, Bridgeport, Connecticut, better known as General Tom Thumb.

Comp. Samuel Lawrence has a good report on correspondence, in which Canada for 1874 is noticed.

ILLINOIS.

We quote some of the decisions of the G. H. P., Comp. H. C. Clarke :—

“ A petitioner for membership, accompanying his petition by a dimit, or other satisfactory evidence that he has lawfully withdrawn from the Chapter of which he was last a member, is not required by our by-laws to be an *affiliated* Master Mason in order to entitle his petition to be received and acted upon.

“No Chapter or its appendant Lodges can be lawfully opened except its High Priest, King or Scribe be present, or a member of the Grand Council of the Grand Chapter.

“No ballot can be taken for the degrees or for membership unless there be present at least nine members of the Chapter qualified to vote.

“A Chapter has jurisdiction over its unfinished work wherever it may be.”

He recommends the division of the jurisdiction into Districts, each to be under the supervision of a District Deputy Grand High Priest. Also that Past High Priests should be permanent members of the Grand Chapter, so long as they are affiliated in the jurisdiction.

From the report on Chartered Chapters we learn that:—

“The number of Subordinate Chapters in this Grand Jurisdiction is one hundred and seventy-one, with an active membership of eleven thousand and twenty-four, making us, in size, the *second* Grand Jurisdiction in the United States. The returns also show an increase of work over last year of five hundred and thirty-seven; this speaks well for Capitular Masonry in Illinois.”

The following resolution was ruled out of order, viz.:—

“*Resolved*, That, in the opinion of this Grand Chapter, the present number of Subordinate Chapters are sufficient for all good interests of our Order and unless good reasons are given to the M.E. Grand High Priest no more dispensations should be granted for the formation of new Chapters.”

The Committee on Jurisprudence say:—

“Further, your Committee are of the opinion that it requires the unanimous consent of all members present to excuse a Companion from voting on the petition of a candidate for the degrees.

“Your Committee would further report that they have had under consideration the matter referred to them from the Committee on Chapters U. D., and would recommend that all Subordinate Chapters having a provision in their By-laws forfeiting the fee accompanying the petitions of candidates in cases where such candidates fail to present themselves for advancement within a specified time, be required to amend their By-laws by striking therefrom such provision.”

It was also resolved:—

“That the Committee on Jurisprudence of this Grand Chapter be in-

structed to investigate the practicability of establishing Chapters in this Grand Jurisdiction who may work in the German language. If said committee consider the granting of said authority advisable, they shall further report some system or manner whereby permission may be legally granted at the next annual convocation of this Grand Chapter."

Canada for 1875 is noticed by the Grand Secretary, and the decisions of Comp. Seymour are quoted with approval.

INDIANA.

These Proceedings are almost entirely of local interest. We copy the report on jurisprudence :—

"The following interrogatories have been submitted to the Committee on Jurisprudence, to-wit :—

"1. Is it proper for the High Priest of a Chapter to entertain a motion to discharge a committee on character and appoint another, with instructions to report instant, when the petition has not been before the Chapter but two weeks ?

"2. In case a committee on character fail to report in due time, what is the proper course for the High Priest or the Chapter to pursue in order to have a report from the committee ?

"3. Is it proper for the High Priest of a Chapter to entertain a motion to lay a petition for degrees on the table, when section 95 of the rules governing subordinate Chapters reads as follows :—

"All applications for the degrees or membership in a Chapter in this jurisdiction must be made in writing, signed by the applicant, and recommended by two members of the Chapter to which the application is made, and must then be referred to a committee for investigation, and lay over for consideration until the next stated communication of the Chapter, except in cases of emergency," etc.

"4. Has the High Priest of a Chapter a right to appoint a Committee on Character after the petition has been read without referring it to the Chapter ?

"5. Has a Chapter a right to reject a petition for degrees after it has been read and the High Priest has left the question to the decision of the Chapter ? Or, in other words : Companion A. moves that the petition be received and a committee appointed ; the majority vote in the negative.

"Question : Can they thus reject said petition ?

"To which the Committee respond as follows :—

ANSWERS.

“ 1. A petition must lie over from one stated meeting to another, should the time be two weeks or more.

“ If the committee does not report at the proper time, the Chapter may discharge it and appoint a new committee ; but such committee should be allowed a reasonable time to report.

“ 2. We think the first answer sufficient for the second question.

“ 3. A petition must be received or rejected, motion to lay on the table being inadmissible.

“ The peculiar character of a Masonic petition being such as to require definite action.

“ 4. Yes, if the petition is not rejected.

“ 5. Yes ; such vote is a rejection.”

On a proposition to amend certain rules they appear to have had quite a lively discussion. Majority and minority reports were presented by the Committee ; two of the amendments were rejected and one was adopted as follows :—

“ Rule 204. A Companion who has been suspended for non-payment of dues ; shall, upon the payment of such dues, and a majority vote of his Chapter, at any stated convocation, be restored to all the rights and privileges of membership in his Chapter.”

Why a majority vote should be required we are at a loss to imagine. It looks as if they wanted to take advantage of the pecuniary necessities of a Companion to keep him out of the Chapter. If there is nothing else against him but the non-payment of dues, he should be re-admitted at once on paying up. If there is any thing else against him, the more manly and straight-forward course would be to prefer charges against him. With us the payment of the arrears, *ipso facto*, restores the Companion to good standing without any vote of the Chapter. We object, decidedly, to the idea that non-payment of dues is a Masonic *crime*, and it should not be treated with the same severity as unmasonic conduct.

The surplus funds of the Grand Chapter were loaned to the Grand Lodge without interest.

Annual dues were ordered to be paid to the General Grand Chapter.

Indiana is rapidly coming to the front with her report on foreign correspondence. The present one is by Comp. W. W. Austin, and is so good that we can't see why he was not retained to write some more. Our Proceedings for 1875, are noticed. He gives the titles of our Grand Officers and then says :—

“Some of these offices we understand, some we have the privilege of guessing at, and some we can't imagine what they do.”

We copy his conclusion :—

“At the request of our Most Excellent Grand High Priest, we have presented a brief review of the proceedings of twenty-eight Grand Chapters.

“While the duty imposed has been one of labor, performed at odd hours, it has also been ‘intensely interesting, instructive and gratifying.’ We would that every Royal Arch Mason in this jurisdiction could sit with us at such a bountiful spread table—one so loaded down with Masonic life-sustaining food—as the volumes we have just set aside furnish.

“We have presented as good, square work as our apprenticeship in the Grand Quarry has enabled us. Our effort has been to raise as perfect ashlar as time and experience on our part would permit. We may be permitted the parallel—the selecting from among the many beauties placed in the great store-house for our choice, is, like a centennial visit, the quantity seen only tends to blind the vision; one exhibit calls up a dozen better. To the young writer, the grand exhibition of the sayings and doings of so many Solomon's in the great Capitular field, is overpowering; like the silence of the Quaker meeting was to the Irishman, ‘’twas deafening.’

“Our allotted task is finished; our little Capitular panorama is closed. If our painting is not of a high order, if the music is not of the artistic, believe that we have still, to the best of our ability, faithfully endeavored to explain which was Daniel, and which was the lion.

“The bell has been rung, the curtain has fallen, and it is now for our Most Excellent Manager to receive at the exit door the varied comments of the retiring crowd of Grand Reviewers upon the work of the laborer.”

IOWA.

M. E. Comp. H. S. Winslow reports general peace and prosperity, and that the Order is making steady progress in all that

pertains to solid and substantial advance. On the subject of work he says :—

“There seems to be an increasing disposition throughout the jurisdiction to adopt a uniformity of work, and a commendable emulation to become proficient in the ritual. This is most important. Much of that interest which should be found in the lodge room may be created and sustained by the manner in which the various degrees are conferred. So, too, the impression made upon the initiate depends largely upon the way in which the mystic ceremonies are developed and unfolded to his view. Our allegories and symbolisms may as easily be made a mine of wealth from which fresh supplies may be drawn at will, presenting points bristling with beauty, worthy of and engaging the study of the intelligent and learned, as to convey but an idea of senseless jargon—a meaningless confusion of words. A failure to accomplish this desirable result lies mainly at the door of him whose duty it is ‘to lead the blind by a way they know not.’”

He granted dispensations to organize four new Chapters. On special dispensations he has the following sensible remarks :—

“I have frequently been asked to grant special dispensations for various purposes mainly to receive petitions and ballot out of time for candidates. Of this class, with but one exception, all applications for such a purpose have been refused. It has seemed to me for some time, that as an order we stand in as great danger from a general and growing desire to increase our membership, and in so doing to tear down any and all barriers which stand in the way of effecting an easy and rapid entrance among us, as from all other causes combined. ‘Good men and true’ we want, and the more the better ; but hastily made members, those of hot-bed growth, who have not taken the time to familiarize themselves with the ritual and much less the tenets of the institution, rarely add anything to the order except increasing its numerical strength. We too often make Masons in haste, leaving an extensive leisure in which to repent ourselves. To-day we need fear as an enemy to be dreaded, over-popularity more than unjust and unfair criticism. We shall increase with all the rapidity desirable in conforming to the usual and ordinary course laid down in the constitution and by-laws of the subordinate chapters. Rather than make access within our portals more easily attainable, I would extend the probationary season, and require at the hands of the initiate severer discipline in the school of instruction.”

The question of “colour” is again coming up as a prominent subject of discussion, and it appears that Iowa has now to face it. One paragraph in this address is as follows :—

“Through the public press we are informed that quite recently a Chapter of coloured Royal Arch Masons has been organized within this grand jurisdiction ; and it is said others are soon to follow. This, as it

seems to me, suggests the 'coming' question—one of practical moment—one that ought to be met at once, fairly, divested of all prejudice, and in that spirit of Masonic fraternity which recognizes the brotherhood of man the world over. While perhaps the initiatory move in this direction must come from the blue lodge, for myself I can see no good reason—indeed it is almost criminal to delay much longer the recognition and refuse the brotherly grip accorded to all other nations and peoples. Without an attempt to lay down any plan, which, in my opinion, would solve the difficulties which surround the matter, I earnestly urge upon you that you give the subject your careful thought, trusting that it will speedily lead to such conclusions and the adoption of such a line of action as shall render justice to those who are now the subjects of an unjust and indefensible rule."

We also copy the report of the Committee on this part of the address, which was adopted by the Grand Chapter:—

"*Coloured Royal Arch Masons*—Masonic laws are the creatures of men and times and circumstances; masonic principles are the sublimation of the truth and the right which have been evolved from the conflicts of the ages. If men have made laws excluding from the councils of Masonry other men of different race or colour, it were time to repeal them and bury them in darkness. Else let us tear down the pillars of strength and establishment, and blot out the celestial and terrestrial bodies delineated thereon, and cease talking about the universal reign of Masonry, and the universality of its claim to the Fatherhood of God, and the brotherhood of man.

"Your Committee are in hearty sympathy with the well chosen words of the M. E. Grand High Priest. They reflect the sentiments expressed by Past Grand Master Campbell K. Peck, in his annual address to the Grand Lodge in 186-. And while your Committee may not presume to pronounce authoritatively, they desire to declare emphatically that masons everywhere should at once determine to do justice to those who, as the M. E. Grand High Priest forcibly states it, are 'the subjects of an unjust and indefensible rule.'

"As 'In every nation, they that fear God and work righteousness' are accepted of Him,' so in every lodge and chapter they that do square work and are true to the everlasting principles of the order, must be accepted by us.

"In accordance with these views, thus briefly expressed, and in order that these chapters of coloured masons shall be under like beneficial control with ourselves, it is suggested that the several Grand Lodges in the United States, by delegates, shall convene at some suitable time and place, and deliberate upon this subject alone, and reach some conclusion that may prove a solution of the question."

The Grand Secretary, Comp. Langridge, still continues his praiseworthy efforts on behalf of their library. In his report he says :—

“ I have, during the past year, made continued efforts to fill up the gaps in the lists of proceedings and of the few periodicals and papers which have accumulated on our shelves. It is desirable, when we have obtained a large number of the issues of a serial publication, to complete the set, as it then becomes valuable, while otherwise it is much less so. I have not purchased masonic books to any great extent, not feeling authorized, and not deeming it necessary, as the Grand Lodge has charge of that department of effort ; but I am anxious to fill the gaps in a few periodical publications and in our files of sister bodies, and, unless forbidden to do so, shall consider that you are desirous to have me continue that labour as I have hitherto done—obtaining, preserving, and binding them as fast as possible. I would ask that I may be authorized to expend a small amount for these purposes.”

The Committee on this say :—

“ *Library.*—Your Committee cannot speak too highly of the industrious care of the Grand Secretary in collecting and preserving papers and periodicals relating to Royal Arch Masonry. These records become more and more valuable as the years grow on, and we recommend that the Grand Secretary be requested to continue the good work ; to make a liberal expenditure of money for the purpose indicated ; and should he be able to state definitely the sum needed for such object, your Committee are prepared to recommend an appropriation sufficient to meet the same.”

And Grand Chapter voted \$50 for the library.

The delegate to the General Grand Chapter was instructed to try to have Past Grand Treasurers and Secretaries made permanent members of their respective Grand Chapters so long as they remain affiliated.

We regret to notice that a prominent member of the Grand Chapter, a P. G. H. P., applied for a loan of the funds of Grand Chapter. The application was referred to the Finance Committee, who respectfully referred it back to the Grand Chapter. A resolution was afterwards introduced, authorizing the loan on sufficient security ; but we are glad to see that this was not carried. We consider that on no account whatever should Masonic funds be lent to a Mason as an investment. Business and Masonry should be kept entirely distinct and separate.

There were two cases of appeal reported on. The first arose on an order of the Grand Chapter passed in 1872, requiring all Companions who were not affiliated Master Masons to apply for membership in some Lodge within one year. In this case the Companion had applied and been rejeeted, and the point was, should he continue to apply every year, or lose his membership in the Chapter. It was very justly decided that he should not.

The other case was as follows :—

“The accused is charged with leaving his post as tyler, during the labour of the chapter, without the knowledge, consent, or request of the High Priest or any member. That such an act is not a masonic crime is not raised by the accused, and even if it were, your Committee would be of the opinion that it *was* a crime of no slight aggravation. The evidence in the case is quite conclusive that the act was committed ; that the accused had a fair trial, well represented by counsel ; and that his rights were properly protected.

“The action of the chapter in suspending the companion your Committee do not feel disposed to disturb. The defence is rested on wholly technical grounds, which are quite extensive and numerous, and we will not rehearse them here. That the companion unceremoniously left his post, and at a time when the chapter was at labor, and with motives that were not worthy of a companion so exalted in the world as the defense insists, is to your Committee quite satisfactory.”

Comp. W. H. H. Pillsbury has an excellent report on correspondence, in which our Proceedings for 1875 receive kindly mention. For his information we may state that the three chief officers in our Chapters are called “ Principals,” First, Second and Third ; or Z., H. and J., corresponding to their H. P., K. and S.

In this report we find a novelty, being nothing less than a review of the Proceedings of a clandestine Grand Chapter ; but, as it is desirable that our Companions here should be kept posted on such matters, we need not apologize for inserting it :—

OHIO (COLOURED).

“We receive a volume bearing the title ‘Transactions of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons for the State of Ohio,’ held in Dayton, August 17th, 1875, being its fifth annual grand convocation. Samuel W. Clark, of Cincinnati, is Grand High Priest, and John R. Blackburn is Grand Secretary.

"We find ourselves wholly unable to locate it, and conclude it is coloured and clandestine.

"It is well executed, both as regards the matter and style of the contents and the mechanical execution of the volume. It claims jurisdiction over the whole broad domain of Uncle Sam and all the rest of creation so far as we know. In his annual address Companion Clark says: 'During these three years, dear companions, with your assistance, and under the guidance and protection of Him who is ever near to hear our cries of distress or our songs of praise, our numbers have been increased many fold, and our jurisdiction extended over many miles; and we now have the gratification of knowing that the fruits of our labours are not found in our own state alone, but upon the shores of the peaceful Pacific where shine the golden sands of California's richest treasures, our name has been proclaimed; and o'er Alabama's plains to the balmy breezes of the Gulf our banner floats.'

"Chapters have been constituted and dedicated under the warrant of this Grand Chapter, in Ohio two, and one in Mobile, Alabama.

"Trouble has arisen between Alpha Chapter, San Francisco, California, and the Officers of the Grand Chapter of Ohio in regard to jurisdiction. Companions in Sacramento ask a dispensation from Ohio to 'open and hold' a chapter in that city. After the request is received a communication is received from Alpha Chapter, San Francisco, claiming jurisdiction. After careful examination, finding no Grand Chapter had jurisdiction in California, Companion Clark granted the dispensation.

"Trouble of course ensued, and continues to ensue.

"Notwithstanding their difficulties they seem to thrive. Eleven chapters were represented in their Grand Chapter convocation. Companion Samuel W. Clark was re-elected Grand High Priest, and Companion John R. Blackburn Grand Secretary."

KANSAS.

The G. H. P., Comp. T. J. Anderson, was unavoidably absent, but his address was read. He congratulates the Craft upon the prevailing harmony; mentions the death of Comp. R. R. Rees, their first G. H. P.; reports two new Chapters formed; and four special dispensations issued to confer the degrees *without regard to time or proficiency*. Surely there should be some limit to this dispensing power, or we may as well do away with all our constitutions, rules and regulations. We cannot imagine what benefit will accrue to Masonry, or even to the candidates themselves, by such proceedings. They can remember but very little of the

ceremonies through which they are thus hurried, and the valuable lessons inculcated in the degrees, will be totally lost upon them. They will also think very little of degrees that are so easily obtained, and in this way positive injury is done to the Craft. It is high time that these special dispensations should be universally discountenanced.

The Grand Chapter decided that it was inexpedient to reduce the fees for degrees from \$40 to \$30.

It was also decided that—

“When the High Priest of a Subordinate Chapter convenes his Chapter in Special Convocations, it is not necessary that he state the purpose for which it is so convened, and it will be proper for him to do any work that may be done, which is not in violation of existing by-laws, or standing regulations.”

Our practice is different, and, we think, preferable.

Canada for 1875 is noticed.

KENTUCKY.

The Grand High Priest, Comp. James A. Beattie, was absent, through a family bereavement, but his address was read in Grand Chapter.

He received sundry applications for dispensations to elect officers out of time, all of which he declined to grant.

The Grand Chapter of Colorado was recognized, and a representative appointed to that body.

The other business was entirely local. The actual proceedings occupy twenty pages of this report; the returns of subordinates and constitution, etc., take up 130 pages; and the report on correspondence, with a historical sketch of the Grand Chapter of Kentucky, by Comp. H. A. M. Henderson, are contained in an appendix of 132 pages.

Canada for 1875 is noticed.

LOUISIANA.

Comp. Samuel J. Powell, G. H. P., mentions the death of

Comp. James Bruce Scot, for many years the Reporter on Foreign Correspondence, "a ripe scholar and a zealous Mason." We have had the pleasure of perusing many articles from the pen of Comp. Scot, and can bear testimony to their general excellence. His death will be deeply regretted.

Comp. Powell had no questions to decide of any practical importance. He attributes this to a more careful study of the constitution, and to a higher order of intelligence in the presiding officers of the Subordinate Chapters.

We make the following extract from this address :—

"I am gratified to have it to say that not a single charge has been preferred, or complaint made during the year. Peace and harmony prevail throughout the entire jurisdiction, and Capitular Masonry is still in a prosperous condition. I do not wish to be understood as saying that this prosperity consists in accessions to our numbers, for, in my judgment, an increase of members is not, of itself, an indication of prosperity. On the contrary, the process of separating the sheep from the goats still continues, and many of the careless and worthless are dropped from our rolls; and the same monetary depression that has heretofore kept so many from our doors, still exists. What I do mean to say is, that there is an element in every Chapter, whose sails are not set to catch the popular breeze, but love the Order for its own sake, with intelligence to appreciate their high privileges and responsibilities—with zeal to bear the burden and heat of the day—they hold fast to the faith of their fathers, and maintain the Order in its dignity and usefulness."

There were no appeals or grievances, upon which the Committee takes occasion to "congratulate the Order upon this evidence of the perfect harmony which prevails among the Companions throughout the State.

Other business local.

No report on correspondence.

MASSACHUSETTS.

This favoured jurisdiction has some of the ablest and best minds to be found in the fraternity. We are always delighted to reach their Proceedings, feeling sure that there will be something to notice, both interesting and instructive.

At the Quarterly Convocation held on June 13, 1876, the following report on a constitutional question was adopted :—

“The Committee to whom was referred a complaint of Pilgrim Chapter of Abington against St. Matthew’s Chapter of South Boston, for working on rejected material, have attended to that duty and beg leave to

REPORT.

“At the outset, your committee is of opinion that it is not competent to act upon the matter at this time. As they understand it, this Grand Chapter deals with subordinate bodies and not with individual members, except in certain circumstances. They are of opinion that the offending Chapter should have investigated the case, and then if the consideration of this Grand Body was needed, it could have asked after such investigation. They will, however, report the facts of the case as it appears to them, and add their recommendation.

“It appears that upon five several times, between the dates of Sept. 9, 1871, and Aug. 28, 1874, one Bro. J. S. Osman, was balloted for in Pilgrim Chapter, and as many times rejected. Bro. Osman subsequently removed his residence to South Boston. On April 8, 1875, that is to say, about seven months after his last rejection in Pilgrim Chapter, he applied to Pilgrim Chapter for permission to receive the degrees in St. Matthew’s Chapter, which was refused. On May 5, 1875, Bro. Osman received his R. A. Degree in St. Matthew’s Chapter.

“At this action of St. Matthew’s Chapter, the Chapter at Abington feels aggrieved and report the facts to this Grand Chapter for its consideration.

“As regards Bro. Osman, he seems to have acted in good faith throughout the matter ; for when solicited to join St. Matthew’s Chapter, as he was several times, by one or more members of said Chapter, he frankly informed them of the fact that he had been rejected in Pilgrim Chapter. Their reply was that they would satisfy or take care of Pilgrim Chapter. On this representation, Bro. Osman applied for and received the degrees in St. Matthew’s Chapter as has been stated.

“On the other hand, the High Priest of St. Matthew’s Chapter solemnly asserts that he knew nothing of the rejection by Pilgrim Chapter till after the exaltation of the Candidate. The Secretary offers as an explanation, that the application of Bro. Osman was presented with several others, and in the hurry of the moment he did not notice the declaration that he had before applied for the degrees. The character and reputation of these two officers are so well known as to preclude any suspicions that they were knowingly guilty of any impropriety. It appears to your committee, that the Companion proposing Bro. Osman, and the Companions having the application in charge, were guilty of gross negligence and culpable

inattention to this important business, that they allowed themselves to submit a favorable report, when at the very outset if they made any investigation at all, they would have been met with the information that the candidate *had* before applied, and when and where, and for what cause rejected. It is no excuse to urge in extenuation that the candidate in question is an estimable citizen and good mason—and has already taken other degrees in the order—this may be conceded, but at the same time a very grave offence has been committed, a great wrong has been perpetrated by one Chapter towards a sister Chapter.

“It is understood that Pilgrim Chapter is disposed to overlook the offence and quietly drop the matter, but your Committee is of opinion that this is a matter of two great importance to be readily disposed of. It is a matter in which every Chapter and all Royal Arch Masons are interested, and is of so serious a nature, that it should be thoroughly inquired into, and if wilful wrong has been committed, let punishment ensue.

“Your Committee would, therefore, recommend that this matter be referred to St. Matthew’s Chapter and that said Chapter be directed to carefully investigate the case and inflict suitable reprimand or correction, as may appear necessary and proper for so grave an offence as the violation of a constitutional right.”

The clause in the constitution, referred to in the above report, is different from any in this jurisdiction. It reads as follows:—

“No candidate whose application may be rejected in any Chapter under this jurisdiction shall be exalted in any Chapter other than that to which he first applied, without a recommendation from nine members of said Chapter, of whom the High Priest, King and Scribe shall be three; and it shall be the duty of every Chapter under this jurisdiction to communicate all rejections of candidates to this Grand Chapter.”

The G. H. P. asked that some action be taken in regard to the reprint of proceedings from the organization in 1789 to 1860 inclusive. It was voted to place the entire edition in the hands of the Trustees of the Funds for sale.

A special Convocation was held on September 27th, 1876, to constitute Unity Chapter, in the Town of Chicopee Falls, at which the G. H. P., Comp. Alfred F. Chapman, delivered a dedication address. This address is so good, and contains so much valuable information, which, we are certain, will be gladly appreciated by our Companions here that we cannot refrain from transferring it entire to this report:—

“In your minds must naturally arise the questioning thought, Whence

comes this Institution of Freemasonry ? What is its object ? What does it represent ? These, and kindred questions have been answered again and again ; these and others like them are still unanswered, because their scope and significance is broader and more comprehensive than the fullness of any hour's reply can be.

“ Of Freemasonry itself, all are agreed that it came to us from the East ; its origin has been the subject of much speculation ; its traditions have been of great interest to the learned , the humble and the great have cultivated and sustained it for many generations.

“ An English authority says that no regular organization of the Craft is recorded prior to the building of King Solomon's Temple, and Solomon himself, who died 975 years before Christ, is acknowledged as our first Grand Master. The same authority traces the stream of English Masonry from its rise until 1866, when the Earl of Zetland was Grand Master of the United Lodge of England. Julius Cæsar is said to have been a Patron of the Order 55 years before the Christian era ; and since the arrival of the Romans in Britain, which occurred Anno Mundi 3949, many distinguished persons, including Sovereigns and Princes, have been identified quite as closely with the Craft. A charter was granted by *Carausius* to Albanus, or St. Albans, who held the first Grand Lodge A.D. 287. Since that time, 25 of the Sovereigns of England have been identified with the order, either as Patrons, or as Grand Master, not including the present heir apparent to the throne who now holds the latter high office.

“ Cardinal Wolsey was Grand Master in 1509, Queen Elizabeth was Patron, and appointed Sir Thomas Sackville Grand Master, who resigned the office in 1567, in favour of Sir Francis Russell, Earl of Bedford, who presided over the Northern Masons, and Sir Thomas Gresham, the ‘ Royal Merchant,’ and founder of the Royal Exchange in London, who presided over the Southern.

“ Following these in grand and strong succession comes a long line of illustrious men—among them, the Earl of Effingham, Inigo Jones, Sir Christopher Wren, Anthony Saye, Esq., the Duke of Montague, Sir Francis Drake, and members of the Royal Family. Truly, it is a royal line ; with one end reaching into the dim and shadowy past, and the other actively grasped by the vital present.

“ The introduction of Masonry in America can be more closely traced, though not quite certainly. As far as known, the first notice was issued in the *Pennsylvania Gazette*, December 8, 1730, a paper printed by Benjamin Franklin, who was a member of the Order, which notice reads as follows :—

“ ‘ As there are several Lodges of Freemasons erected in this Province, and people have lately been much amused with conjectures concerning

them, we think the following account of Freemasonry from London will not be unacceptable to our readers :'

"Daniel Cox, of New Jersey, was commissioned Provincial Grand Master of New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania, on June 5, 1730, by the Duke of Norfolk, who was Grand Master of England in 1729 and 1730; and on April 30, 1733, Henry Price was commissioned Grand Master of New England, though the authority already quoted says that a 'warrant was granted to Boston by Lord Montague, appointing R. W. Henry Price Grand Master of North America,' and since that time its history is unbroken,

"In regard to Royal Arch Masonry, of which this new Chapter now becomes a member, we can not trace it in an organized form with any degree of certainty much if any back of 1740. When the Royal Arch Degree' was discovered or invented we do not know, but the Grand Chapter of Scotland, after much research, has published its conclusion in an introduction to its Book of Constitutions.

"In referring to the Templars, that authority says :—'They had the knowledge of Freemasonry without the name, and without the external badges of Masonry. Thus the Royal Arch became a portion of the peculiar ceremony of reception into the Temple. That the Royal Arch Degree was then scarcely known to the operative body or society of builders, has been thought by some sufficiently proved, from no direct notice having been taken of it in the Royal Order of Scotland, of which the first degree, or the Masonic portion of it, may be traced to that connection which subsisted between the Builders and the Artisans who introduced the first three degrees in the twelfth century ; there are, however, certain points of contact which almost induce an opinion that Royal Arch Masonry may not have been then entirely unknown to the Masonic Fraternity, and that the first degree of the Royal Order was intended to *supplant* it.'

"'The Royal Arch, nearly similar to what is at present practiced in Scotland [in England there are many interpolations, and in Ireland and on the Continent the degree has been entirely changed] may then be considered as having been detected by the Templars in the East ; and whether or not all the members of the Fraternity from whom the Templars derived their knowledge were artificers, it must be conceded that these Knights did not retain this degree as a Masonic one, but merely as one of the preparatory steps to higher solemnities ; and indeed there is every reason to believe that it never in this country became a part of Masoury until the Order of the Temple itself became so.'

"'At this time, also, the communication of the preliminary information contained in St. John's Masonry was intrusted to an ordinary Lodge, where it could be more perfectly obtained ; and although the Royal

Arch was still retained more immediately in connection with the Temple, the various steps were divided into so many distinct grades or degrees.

“It is not so important to ascertain where this grade was established, as it is to learn that the Royal Arch Degree in its essentials existed at so early a period, for if it was intended that the first Degree of the Royal Order, which was established during the reign of King David, should supplant the Royal Arch, we arrive at the fact that the latter must have been well known prior to 1124, because it was in that year that David the First ascended the throne of Scotland, and it was not until the Battle of Bannockburn, in 1314, that the second Degree of the Royal Order of Scotland was established by King Robert Bruce and conferred by him on certain of his Scottish adherents, who were Masons, for their conspicuous bravery on the field of battle.

“Without dwelling longer upon the antiquity and the coming of Capitular, or Royal Arch Masonry, we conclude that no certain evidence points out the period when, nor the persons ‘by whom the Degree was brought into Britain;’ there is no doubt, however, that a ‘principal cause of the obscurity which hangs over this branch of the science is, that while St. John’s [or Blue] Masonry has always been connected with public buildings, the greater part of Royal Arch Masonry, including the Royal Arch Degree itself, was practiced only in private;’ and being also of a higher grade and leading to higher solemnities, it was necessarily more exclusive in its character, and received its candidates from among the more meritorious brethren.

“In this country it has become firmly established, and without seeking it, the appellation of the American system or Rite, has not unfrequently been bestowed upon it; for one hundred and ten years, counting in decades, it has been cultivated upon this continent with varying success, but always preserved by the humane, the benevolent and the just. Moved by a common impulse and marching beneath its scriptural banners, which represent the strength of the lion, the patience of the ox, the intelligence of the man, and the swiftness of the eagle, is a fraternal band of Royal Arch Masons, 134,000 strong; brothers in the East, brothers in the West, brothers in the North, brothers in the South, with hands clasped in others hands, and their systems tuned to the divine Song of *Peace*.

“Among the earliest records of a Royal Arch Chapter on this Continent are those of St. Andrew’s Chapter in Boston; dating back to August 18, 1769.

“There are other claimants for the honor of being the oldest Chapter in America, but we do not know of one that can produce so fair and complete a record of its antiquity; this Chapter, following the custom of earlier Royal Arch Masons, used to meet under the sanction of a Lodge’s Charter, hence it is uncertain when it first conferred degrees; and it was this

custom, together with the secrecy in which the Degree of the Royal Arch was cultivated, which prevents our tracing its origin with perfect accuracy.

“It is enough, however, for us to know that the labour and the love of many generations have contributed to its economy, and that it is to-day, what it long has been, Second to no other agency but the Christian Church. Sorrow and Joy are the certain inheritance of man, and though sorrow may be but for a season, yet side by side, and shoulder to shoulder, with the Church itself, Freemasonry marches, with unfaltering step, to feed the hungry from one hand. and with the other to bind up the wounds of the afflicted ; preferring always, and justly so, to remember those who are of the household of faith.

“Much speculation and many conjectures have been indulged in, as to the derivation of the word or name, Mason. Many of these have been fanciful, some of them ingenious, while all have served to amuse, even if they have failed to instruct.

“The Greeks, the Egyptians, the Druids, in some one or more of their customs, have been credited with the parentage of the word, but, however much the ceremonies of either of these may have resembled the Masons of the present time in form or motive, the word ‘Mason,’ has no perceptible relationship to either of them.

“In the early history of Britain, Masons were employed in building Walls and Forts, for purposes of defence ; and in A. D. 120, Adrian’s Wall was built from Tynemouth to Solway Frith.

“Carausius employed St. Alban to environ the City of Verulum with a stone wall, and to build him a fine Palace,’ though it is likely he did not occupy it, for he was assassinated in 293, having ruled only five years as Emperor.

“A few years later, the Empress Helena, mother of the great Constantine, ‘enclosed London with a stone wall.’ Canterbury Cathedral was built in the year 600, Rochester Cathedral in 602, and St. Paul’s London, in 604. Other Cathedrals and churches, together with palaces, fortified cities and towns were built, which required a large number of Masons or builders, who, it is said, soon formed themselves into Societies, or Lodges, by direction of the foreign workmen from the continent ‘who came over to help them.’

“These Lodges held their meetings in the Monasteries, whose founders were actively employing and patronizing the Masons. In the year 680, ‘Bennet, Abbot of Wirral, introduced the use of brick and stone.’ Athelstan, soon after ascending the throne in 924, ‘built Beverley Cathedral and Melton Abbey in Dorsetshire. Some years later, many more expert Masons arrived from France, and from 1155 until 1199 the Masons were under the Patronage of the Knights Templar. Thus it appears that the

importance of these skilled artisans was fully recognized by the rulers in both Church and State, while the rich and noble were glad to recognize and employ them. Being fully occupied in perfecting and executing their plans, they had no time to give in making discourses upon the beautiful in Architecture, even had they been sufficiently learned to have done so, but their patrons, recognizing the valuable lessons that might be learned in the Art of Architecture, applied their knowledge, gained by association, and their learning, in giving moral and æsthetical lectures upon the subject, and to these latter are we indebted for the speculative character of the Order as it exists to-day.

“The word ‘Mason,’ therefore, is to be taken as we understand it, ‘in its ordinary signification of a worker in Stone,’ ‘and thus,’ as Mackey says, ‘indicates the origin of the Order from a society or association of practical and operative builders.’

“Here let us rest from further pursuit in the domain of history, for whatever may have been the character or condition of the Order during the centuries of uncertainty, or however much the Anglo-Saxon race may have impressed itself upon it, the principles of the Institution, like Truth itself, are the same yesterday, to-day and forever.

“Living through ages of uncertainty, with its existence depending upon the good character of its adherents, and its legends upon tradition for preservation and transmission ; it has outlived dynasties, endured persecution, outgrown envy, and now, independent of the malice of the wicked and the weak, it is beyond dispute, the oldest and the best of all the moral forces of human organization.

“It invades not the spiritual domain of religion, and imposes no dogmas of creed upon its members ; but with the Bible open upon its altar, and a belief in God as the sole requirement for the erection of its spiritual edifice, it teaches that our moral and spiritual characters should be most like God, and enforces its lessons by the use of appropriate symbols.

“After due knowledge, it permits not any of its members to say ‘I was sick and ye visited me not,’ an ‘hungred and ye fed me not,’ ‘naked and ye clothed me not,’ but with a charity, at once disinterested, delicate and vigorous, it gives relief without ostentation, and sympathy without reproach. To the living it gives when want is most pressing, to the dead it is most tender, and holds their widows and orphans in appropriate remembrance. It makes no agreement to give, but employs the best methods in dealing with the dependant, without oppressing them with the sense that they are considered such.

“It gives by contribution what it refuses by contract, and is practical in producing results.

“In England, there is at St. John’s Hill, Battersea Rise, a ‘Royal Free-

mason's School,' with accommodations for one hundred female children—at 'Wood Green, Tottenham,' there is a 'Royal Masonic Institution,' for boys, with accommodation for the same number; at Croydon, there is an asylum for aged and decayed Masons, with accommodation for 34. In 1842, 'the Aged Mason's Annuity Fund' was established, and in 1849, the 'Widow's Fund' was established.

"In these schools the children of indigent and deceased Freemasons are maintained, clothed and educated, at the expense of the Fraternity, the Asylum gives a good home to the aged and worthy Masons, where

'Care keeps his watch in every old man's eye,'

—and these two Funds are to afford relief in a more general way. In the United States, similar Institutions exist; prominent among them are St. John's College, in Little Rock, Arkansas, with a valuation of one hundred thousand dollars; a like enterprise of larger proportions in Kentucky; Masons in other States are moving in a like direction, charity Funds abound, the aged and the infirm are assisted, the widow and the orphan find relief, when they might otherwise look in vain.

"Freemasonry then, is a practical Institution, founded for beneficent purposes, and maintained for good results; exacting of its members, to have faith in God, Hope in Immortality, and Charity towards all mankind. This then is her Genius, which—

'When prophecies shall fail,
When tongues shall cease, and knowledge is no more
And the Great Day is come, then by the throne
Shall sit triumphant.'

"The Royal Arch Degree, called in England 'the Holy Royal Arch,' serves to impress upon our minds in a peculiar manner 'that God has made all things square, upright and perfect.'

"It wipes out caste, touches the great heart of humanity, and tells it, that 'every creature whom God has made, is to him equally near and equally distant.'

"Within its White Vail, Bigotry, Superstition, Envy, Malice, Hypocrisy, and all Deceit, wrap their poisonous garments about them, and lose their occupations in despair; for nothing but the wickedness of Man, which is weaker than the goodness of God, can bring reproach upon the Institution, whose work it is to establish the kingdom of God upon earth, from whose throne comes the Divine injunction of 'Little Children Love one Another.'

"And to this end is Unity Royal Arch Chapter Consecrated."

Comp. John W. Dadmun reviews our Proceedings for 1875 and 1876. Under the head of "Iowa" he has the following remarks on forced affiliation, with which we heartily agree. We believe

that "Masonry is free and requires a perfect freedom of inclination" in its votaries :—

"*Forced* affiliation is the law in Iowa. He was again obliged, by the Grand Constitution, to rule :—

" 'That if a Companion dimitts from his Lodge, and remains unaffiliated a year, he becomes unaffiliated in the Chapter. To regain his membership he must affiliate with his Lodge and petition his Chapter and be ballotted for, the same as a new member.'

"We solemnly declare this to be unjust, unmerciful, and absolutely opposed to the whole genius and spirit of Freemasonry. Unjust, because a man is a Mason and a member of the Fraternity when he is raised to the sublime degree of M. M., according to the old regulations. The work of every Grand Lodge so declares to the candidate when raised, and the diploma so certifies ; that is, everyone we have ever seen. It is unjust, because it unseats a Companion without trial, who has paid his fees and dues faithfully to his Chapter, and to his Lodge ; and who holds a dimit, *which always proves an honourable discharge—a clean bill of health*. It is unmerciful, because it obliges a Companion to support two branches of the Fraternity whether he is able or not, and one branch over which the Chapter has no control, and which does not even recognize Capitular Masonry. There is not one particle of charity or humanity in such Masonic legislation. We know whereof we speak, and we are supported by the best Masonic authors on record.

"The proposed amended Constitution indicates a little compunction of conscience, by making an exception to the rule. The last clause of Section 12, Article II., reads, "*unless such petitioner may have been denied membership therein.*" Then a M. M. who has been blackballed in a Lodge is better qualified for membership in the Chapter than one who has been admitted and then honourably discharged at his own request. Then, again, why not make the poor man an exception, and thereby show a charitable disposition. There are many Masons who were once rich, but are now poor, who need this kind of charity to enable them to preserve their standing in the Fraternity."

In his conclusion Comp. Dadmun again touches that question, and his remarks are so apposite that we can add nothing to them :—

"As we are about to close this review, we must congratulate our Companions upon the near approach of the different jurisdictions to

perfect unity in Masonic law and usage ; and we are confident that the reports on correspondence have contributed largely to this result. The simple fact of the appointment of Standing Committees on Correspondence, and also of Grand Representatives, will counteract the tendency to Masonic localization, and foster the spirit of the Universal Brotherhood of Freemasonry.

“ The great question that demands special attention at this time is, How shall we treat non-affiliated Masons ? All agree that a non-affiliated Mason is one who is not a member of any Subordinate Lodge. He may not have applied for membership ; he may have applied and been rejected ; or, he may have been honourably discharged from membership, at his own request. In either case, according to well established Masonic law and usage, he is a Mason and a member of the Fraternity, and must continue so to be until he voluntarily commits some act which is a violation of his obligation ; and then he must have a fair trial before he can be expelled from all the rights and benefits of Masonry. Until he is tried and expelled, he is subject to discipline by any Grand Lodge within whose jurisdiction he may reside ; and this fact implies “ *full membership* ” in the Fraternity, and certain inherent rights which are derived from his initiation.

“ We will here quote from that eminent Masonic scholar, our late M. E. Charles W. Moore, who was for thirty years Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts. He says :—

“ “ *Non-affiliated Masons.* There has been much questionable legislation in reference to this class of brethren. That every Mason *ought* to belong to some Lodge is undoubtedly true. But those who do not have rights which must be respected. The candidate is received, by virtue of his initiation, into *full membership* of the Fraternity, and is thereby invested with all those *general* privileges, and becomes entitled to all those personal benefits, which were possessed and enjoyed by individual members of the Order before the organization of private or particular Lodges, as these at present exist. These general privileges and benefits are irrevocable. They can be forfeited only by the initiate's own act. He inherits them from his initiation, and they give him a claim on the courtesy, the friendship, and, if need be, ‘ the aid, help and assistance ’ of his brethren, wherever he may sojourn on the face of the earth. This is ANCIENT FREEMASONRY, and it is UNIVERSAL FREEMASONRY. The Lodge is to him, in most respects, as a private association of Brethren. He contributes nothing to its support, and has therefore no claim to any of the *special* benefits conferred

by it upon its members. He neither is eligible to office therein, nor can demand relief from its private charity fund ; but such relief may be demanded of every individual member of the Lodge for himself, his widow, and his orphan children. This is a right and privilege vested in him by his initiation.'

"Now, the point we make is this : Capitular Masonry should plant itself upon the universally received doctrine that a brother who has been raised to the sublime degree of M. M. is a *member of the Fraternity*, '*wheresoever dispersed*;' and that it is his privilege to make application for advancement by virtue of the rights and privileges conferred upon him in his initiation into the Order. We will not lend our voice or pen to sacrifice the fundamental principles of Freemasonry to any modern innovation, however agreeable, pleasant, and even *profitable*—financially—it may be. It does not meet the case, nor destroy the force of the argument, to say, 'Every Mason *ought* to be a member of some Lodge.' We may think it his *duty*; he may think it his *privilege*. We think every Mason *ought* to belong to some Lodge *if* he can get in. We know of some who have tried to get membership in the very Lodge where they were made, but could not. We know them to be good men, *and they are good Masons*.

"Why is it that some Grand Chapters want to legislate to promote local membership in Subordinate Lodges? Can't the Grand Lodges take care of their own legitimate business? We think they can. If they should undertake to override the well established landmarks of the Order, then it will be time enough for us to say, 'We dissent, and shall hold you to the principles of UNIVERSAL FREEMASONRY.' There is force in what Comp. Lewis says : 'Can it be that thus, one by one, all the distinguishing features of the Masonic polity are to be eliminated, until at last we shrink to the stunted proportions of an ordinary mutual benefit society? God forbid?' We fully believe in supporting the Lodges, but we do not believe it is the province of Chapter Masonry to *force* Lodge affiliation."

MICHIGAN.

Comp. Wm. Brown, G. H. P., delivered the usual address. He issued dispensations for two new Chapters. He visited a number of Chapters, and reports most of them in good condition. Two of his decisions are as follows :—

"1st Question.—The By-Laws of our Chapter provide that a mem-

ber in arrears for dues shall not be entitled to vote, or have any voice in the Chapter. Is such a law valid?

“Answer.—Such a law is invalid, and until charges are preferred and a legal trial had thereon, and judgment and sentence, the Companion has a right to take part in the work and business of the Chapter.

“2nd Question.—A Companion petitions for membership, when a member of the Chapter objects to the application being received, and gives his reason therefor—what ought the High Priest to do?

“Answer.—Direct the Secretary to note the fact and return the Companion his petition and demit.”

From another ruling we learn that they cannot receive the petition of a non-affiliate, which is contrary to Dadmun and a good many more very sensible people.

After a lengthy and interesting discussion, an amended Constitution was adopted by the Grand Chapter. The special Committee who had charge of this work appear to have performed their allotted task with unusual care and fidelity. One part of their report, in presenting the result of their labours, is as follows :—

“In drafting this proposed Constitution we have had one great object in view, viz: to make it reflect the prevailing jurisprudence and practice among the Royal Craft in this country, and therefore, the first step taken was to open a correspondence with representative men in the different Grand Jurisdictions upon disputed points in this Grand Jurisdiction, and to solicit a copy of the constitution of their respective Grand Chapters, and it affords us great pleasure to be able to state that with two exceptions our interrogations and requests were responded to most cordially, and in most cases very promptly. Indeed, one may say that some of the communications received from these eminent Companions are models of perfection in their line, and reflect no little credit upon the head, heart and hand of the author of all the Grand Chapters in this country, including those of Canada and Nova Scotia. West Virginia and Minnesota alone refused to respond, notwithstanding the G. H. P., Grand Secretary and Committee on Foreign Correspondence were each written to, and finally pledged pecuniary remuneration for their trouble and expense. After getting a fund of Masonic law and ‘light’ together, and comparing one with the other, and all with our own, we felt that we had before us a

substantial basis from which to commence, and reliable material with which to complete the work laid out for us by this Grand Chapter.

“We have recommended but few radical changes in what has heretofore prevailed in this Grand Jurisdiction, and those only after the closest scrutiny, and after carefully weighing the *pros* and *cons* in every instance.

“In recommending these changes your Committee have had in consideration, economy in time, labour and expense in conducting the sessions of this Grand Chapter, and effectiveness in its operations.”

A Companion who had been expelled for drunkenness and other unmasonic conduct, having given proof of reformation, was restored by Grand Chapter, it being recommended to “extend to him a helping hand, and to aid him in the reformation he had commenced.”

Comp. Wm. P. Innes, Grand Secretary, has an excellent report on foreign correspondence. Our Proceedings of 1875 and 1876 are well noticed, and copious extracts given. We copy part of his conclusion :—

“Our Masonic Law as a general thing is based on the same governing principles throughout the land, and what is Masonic Law on the broad Atlantic is Masonic Law on the great Pacific. This we attribute, in a great measure, to the very general system of interchange through the Committees on Foreign Correspondence.

“Our increased correspondence and enthusiasm evinced, prove to us that the tenets of our Order are being rapidly spread far and near, and their beauties recognized throughout a more vast expanse of the land.

“Quietly we stand on the shores of time and calmly retrospect.

“Masonry a hundred years ago, with its feeble foothold and feebler followers, forces a comparison upon us, and we turn to the present scene where freedom and independence of thought and opinion hold sway, and where to-day Masonry in all its glory rises triumphant.

“Look at the beautiful temples throughout the land, where myriads fearlessly worship 'round the throne, and untrammelled, enthusiastically proclaim the beauties and mysteries of the order.

“As we picture this scene made so bright by comparison, we can

but silently offer a fervent prayer to the God of peace and plenty who so graciously promotes our cause, the ladder of which is fame, and whose deeds of love and charity are the stepping stones to a brighter sphere.

“See the faithful followers of Masonry diffusing not only around their own members, but all in distress, the love, charity and beneficence which our order demands, and can any gainsay the merit of an institution which promotes so materially the welfare of mankind.”

MISSISSIPPI.

We have received two circulars from Mississippi, giving the principal proceedings at their Twenty-ninth Annual Convocation, held at Vicksburg, on the 5th and 6th of February, 1877. Fifty-three Chapters were represented.

It was agreed that in order to free the Grand Chapter entirely from debt, Representatives and Grand Officers should charge no mileage or *per diem* allowance at the next Convocation, in 1878. This action on the part of the members is very commendable. The returns and Grand Chapter dues are to be sent to the Grand Secretary as usual.

The Grand Secretary was authorized to compromise and enter as settled all ledger balances prior to 1875, but Chapters owing annual dues for any year were required to pay the same within ninety days.

The following amendment to the Constitution was submitted for the consideration of Subordinate Chapters. Final action is to be had at the next Annual Grand Convocation :—

“Amend Sec. 1, Article V of the Constitution, by substituting the word ‘three’ for the word ‘two,’ so as to make the fee to the Grand Chapter for each Exaltation in a Subordinate Chapter three dollars instead of two dollars.”

The degrees of Royal and Select Master were transferred by the Grand Council to the Grand Chapter, and unanimously accepted by the latter. The following arrangement for the transfer was reported by a joint Committee, consisting of Companions Howry, Walter and DeLap on the part of the Grand Council, and

Companions Speed, Bowen and Dicks, on the part of the Grand Chapter:—

“The undersigned, a Committee of the Most Excellent Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons in the State of Mississippi, and a Committee of the Most Puissant Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters in the State of Mississippi, appointed by these Grand Bodies respectively, to present an arrangement by which the degrees of the Grand Council are to be transferred to the Grand Chapter, beg leave to report that the degrees of Royal Master and Select Master be and the same are hereby transferred to the Grand Chapter, and shall hereafter be conferred as follows:—

“1. Each Royal Arch Chapter shall hereafter open within its bosom, under its charter as a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, a Council of Royal and Select Masters and confer the degrees of Royal Master and Select Master; the officers of the Chapter, corresponding in rank to those of the Council, to be the officers of the Council.

“2. All Royal Arch Masons who have not received the degrees of Royal Master and Select Master shall be entitled to have the same conferred, or communicated, on their request and without charge, but candidates, who shall hereafter receive the Royal Arch degree shall immediately thereafter, and in connection with the Royal Arch degree, receive the degrees of Royal Master and Select Master, without additional charge.

“3. All present and past Grand Officers of the Grand Council, and all present and past Thrice Illustrious Masters of Subordinate Councils, shall be entitled to participate in all the proceedings of the Grand Chapter, but without a vote therein until the Constitution can be so amended as to permit them to vote as other past Grand Officers and members of the Grand Chapter.

“4. The General Grand Chapter of the United States is most earnestly, but respectfully, petitioned to permit the degrees of Royal Master and Select Master to be conferred as a part of the Royal Arch Degree, the former before the Royal Arch and the latter after.

“5. The Officers of the Grand Council shall be elected in order to preserve the organization, pending the approval of the action by the General Grand Chapter of the United States.”

By this action:—

“1. All Councils of Royal and Select Masters cease to exist.

"2. The degrees of 'Royal Master' and 'Select Master' will hereafter be conferred, or communicated, in the several Royal Arch Chapters and upon *Royal Arch Masons* only, and as follows: The Chapter being opened in the Royal Arch Degree, a Council of Royal and Select Masters will then be opened in these degrees, respectively: After completing its work, the Council will be closed, with all due forms and ceremonies, and the business of the Chapter resumed, or closed as occasion may require, in the Royal Arch Degree.

"3. Royal Arch Masons who have not received the degrees of Royal and Select Master may have them conferred, or communicated, without fee, in open Council, But in all cases the Chapter must be regularly convened and a Council formally opened.

"4. Companions hereafter receiving the Royal Arch Chapter Degree, will be advanced to the Royal Master's, and afterwards to the Select Master's Degree—the Chapter being first opened, and then the Council, as before directed.

"5. In Chapters, where there are not a sufficient number of Royal and Select Masters, and when a sufficient number cannot conveniently be assembled from neighbouring Chapters, to complete the Council, the degrees of Royal and Select Master may be communicated, by any competent Companion, to a sufficient number of the Companions of the Royal Arch, to open a Council, preferably to the officers of the Chapter, if there be any such who have not received these degrees. The intention being to *communicate the degrees only in cases of absolute necessity*, it being expected that the officers of each Chapter will, at the earliest practicable date, qualify themselves *to work* the Council Degrees the same as the Degrees of the Chapter are required to be worked; and after they have so qualified themselves in no case will the Council Degrees be communicated.

"6. It is recommended that the T. I. M. of each Council cause its members to assemble at the earliest convenient day and provide for the disposition of its property and effects, by transferring the same to the Chapter within whose jurisdiction the Council has hitherto been held, and where a preponderance of its members hold their membership. In cases where the membership is divided between two or more Chapters, it is suggested that the property be divided between them or donated to the Chapter having the least ability to provide itself with the necessary paraphernalia of the Council degrees. In cases where Councils are in debt, the assets should be *sold* to some Chapter, and proceeds applied to settlement of outstanding obligations. It is

particularly to be hoped that the cause of Masonry will not be disgraced by the neglect or failure of any Council to provide for the payment of its debts. A small contribution from its members will generally suffice to enable the poorest Council to dissolve honourably, and without leaving a stain upon the Masonic name and character. The surplus funds of Councils may be disposed of at their pleasure, but dues to the 'Grand Council' must in all cases be paid when the Councils have the ability to do so.

"7. The Charters of all Subordinate Councils will be returned to the Grand Recorder. And it is recommended that the records and seals of each Council be deposited with that officer for preservation.

"8. Presiding officers of Councils will in all cases report their action to the Grand Recorder.

"9. A copy of this Edict will be duly certified to each Chapter by the Grand Secretary, and the same will be its sufficient warrant as a Council of Royal and Select Masters, until the Grand Chapter shall otherwise provide."

MISSOURI.

The G. H. P., Comp. Charles F. Leavitt, delivered an address, which is full of work. He issued dispensations for three new Chapters, and arrested the charters of two old ones. Two others voluntarily surrendered their charters. He visited a number of Chapters, and gives details of their condition and progress. On the non-payment of dues he has the following remarks:—

"I have found in my intercourse and correspondence with the various Chapters in the State that those Chapters that promptly collect their dues each year are in a healthy and vigorous condition; there is no 'lack of interest' or 'want of zeal' among the members; their meetings are well attended, and there is no 'lack of work.' While, on the contrary, those Chapters where there is little or no attention paid to the collection of dues—where the dues are permitted to accumulate from year to year—there is a 'want of zeal' and a 'lack of interest' that is truly lamentable. Such Chapters 'languishingly live,' and will 'languishingly die' unless some means are adopted to infuse new life and new vigor into them.

"Chapters that permit their dues to accumulate from year to year against their members act unjustly towards their members, to themselves, and not unfrequently to the Grand Chapter. Last year twenty-

one of our subordinates failed to pay Grand Chapter dues. Some of that number are three and four years in arrears to this Grand Body. The cause of this failure, in nearly every instance, is the non-payment of dues by members. This is wrong, radically wrong, and some means ought to be devised whereby the drones may be expelled from the great hive of Masonry.

“Companion Wiggins, of California, in speaking of this subject, says : ‘There is a certain class in every community, Masonic or otherwise, who can only be brought to a realizing sense of their duty by a strict administration of law and a wholesale dread of penalties. We sometimes hear Masons complaining that the Order is degenerating into an institution of dollars and cents ! Dollars and cents, indeed ! What but dollars and cents clothe the naked and feed the hungry ? What but dollars and cents furnish the destitute widow and helpless orphan with home and shelter, and the comforts of life ? Those who complain that Masonry is an institution of dollars and cents, in nine cases out of ten, do not pay their dues, or if they do, pay them grudgingly and tardily. And it is this class of Masons that the law is intended to reach.’

“He might have added that this class of Masons, when they fall into distress, are the first to call on the Lodge and Chapter, or their brethren, for relief ; and if relief is not promptly provided, and in the most liberal manner, they at once denounce the institution without stint, and claim that it is degenerating into ‘an institution of dollars and cents ;’ that it is a humbug, etc.

“I have no remedy to suggest for this evil. This Grand Body is composed of intelligent Masons. Many of you have ‘grown gray in the service.’ It is for you to act, and if possible devise some remedy for this evil.

“I am of the opinion that if this Grand Chapter would organize a system of visitation and inspection by its officers, they being required to report the true condition of every Chapter visited by them, much good would result from it.”

The Grand Secretary was absent through illness. The Grand Chapter voted its sympathy for Comp. Gouley and granted him leave of absence.

One hundred dollars was voted to a distressed Companion and \$300 to another, thus practically exemplifying, in a notable manner, one of the cardinal tenets of our Fraternity.

The Grand Secretary presented a brief report on correspondence, in which Canada for 1875 is noticed. We copy one paragraph from his conclusion :—

“But few questions of general interest have arisen for discussion, and strange as it may seem, the one most frequently presented, is one to our mind most easily solved, viz ; the relationship between lodge and Chapter in the case of suspended or expelled members by the former body. How an expelled or suspended lodge member should for a moment not be considered as *ipso facto* expelled or suspended in the Chapter, upon the voucher of a Chapter member in good standing, who knows the fact from personal attendance at the lodge, or consultation with the lodge record, is incomprehensible, to us. To require a certificate from the lodge of the fact of penalty, would be as reasonable as to demand a certificate from the lodge in order to file it with a petition for the Chapter degrees. The voucher of the two recommenders has always been deemed sufficient.”

IN MEMORIAM.

In the terrible conflagration which occurred at the Southern Hotel, in St. Louis, on the night of the 10th April last, Comp. George Frank Gouley met his death.

This heart-rending calamity sent thrills of compassion and sadness through thousands of hearts. Not only in Missouri, but throughout the length and breadth of the whole North American Continent, wherever Masonry existed, the name of Comp. George Frank Gouley was as a household word.

His many amiable qualities had endeared him to hosts of friends, while his zeal and energy in Masonic matters had made him an authority to be observed and quoted as a master in the Craft.

His loss will be deeply felt, and sincerely and generally regretted ; while the sad circumstances of his untimely death will but serve to cherish his memory more fondly. We offer to Missouri our heart-felt sympathy in this great trial.

“REQUISCAT IN PEACE.”

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

The usual address was delivered by M. E. Comp. John D. Patterson, G. H. P. In it he says :—

“The past year has witnessed no decrease of the prosperity and advancement of Chapter Masonry in this jurisdiction. No elements of discord have come to my knowledge to disturb the peace and harmony of our Subordinate Chapters. Our increase has been steady and healthy. It is a matter of congratulation that the Institution of Masonry enjoys in so large a degree the confidence and respect of the community. Let us strive that the fraternal and benevolent principles of Chapter Masonry may have a powerful and happy influence in removing all prejudice which may remain in any mind against our beloved Order.”

He appointed Comp. I. H. Stearns, of Montreal, as the Representative of this Grand Chapter near the Grand Chapter of Canada. He reports that all the Chapters in the State have been visited by some Grand Officer, and they are, in general, working well.

Reports were also presented by the Deputy Grand High Priest, the Grand King and the Grand Scribe. The Deputy says :—

“And here let me suggest to you all how much in our Chapters depends on the zeal and understanding possessed by a few of the leading members. My duties during the past five years in which I have held a position in the Grand Council, have led me to visit nearly all the Chapters in this State, and several of them more than once, and in different years. This fact has led me more fully to realize how much depends on such members. I have sometimes found a much less prosperous condition of affairs in certain Chapters than I expected, recollecting its condition on my former visit. I had invariably found that this changed condition resulted from the loss of this important few, either by death, or removal, or more frequently from their having filled the important offices and then stepped down and out from *all duties*. This is all wrong. If those who by reason of their knowledge and skill have been elected to high positions shall step out of the ranks as soon as they leave those trusts, and henceforth consider their duties all ended, who shall guide and instruct the initiates, and how soon will the masses lose interest when they see their leaders grow inactive and listless !”

We also copy the report of the Committee on Jurisprudence, which was adopted, merely remarking, in order to avoid any misunderstanding with our readers here, that "dual membership" is prohibited in New Hampshire, and, therefore, that the reasoning of the Committee on that point could not apply to any jurisdiction, such as ours, where Companions may belong to more than one Chapter :—

"It is a general principle of Masonic law, which applies to all Masonic Bodies, in the absence of specific regulations to the contrary, that when a charter or warrant is duly granted by the supreme Masonic authority, upon due constitution thereof, those who petitioned therefor, by operation of law become members of the new body.

"Being members of the new body they cannot at the same time be members of the body to which they formerly belonged. To hold otherwise is to allow the creature to palsy the hand of the creator.

"All charter members stand upon the same level. A part of these members cannot make By-Laws which shall relate back and thus put another part upon a lower level than themselves.

"Being members by the charter they cannot by any retrospective law be divested of their rights with which the charter has invested them.

"The fourteen members who have not signed the By-Laws are as much members of Columbian Chapter as those who have signed them.

"When the By-Laws of a Chapter, enacted in pursuance of the Grand Regulations, provided that no Companion should be a member thereof until after he signed the By-Laws it would seem to be self evident that such Companion could not be a member who had not signed the By-Laws.

The eight Companions who were exalted in Columbian Chapter are therefore not as yet members thereof. We doubt much the expediency of the By-Laws in question. No Chapter should exalt any Companion who is unworthy of membership. When exalted it should be made the duty of the Secretary to insert his name upon the roll of members."

The matter of re-printing the early proceedings of this Grand Chapter was referred to a special Committee.

Correct returns were received from all the Chapters, nineteen in number. Exaltations, 124; members, 2,115.

Comp. Nathan P. Hunt has a good report on correspondence, in which Canada for 1875 is noticed.

NEW JERSEY.

A fine portrait of Comp. John Woolverton, P. G. H. P., graces these Proceedings.

Comp. Frederick G. Wiese, G. H. P., read the usual address, recounting his official acts. He acknowledges with great satisfaction the valuable services of those associate Grand Officers, on whom devolved the duty of visitation. He rendered the following decisions :—

“1. A Chapter having received the petition of a candidate whose residence is within the jurisdiction of another Chapter, the petition cannot be further acted upon without the consent of the Chapter having jurisdiction.

“2. A Chapter having applied to another Chapter, where there is concurrent jurisdiction, for permission to act upon a petition, in case of refusal the action is final.”

He refused two applications for dispensations to confer the degrees out of time, on the ground that—

“A Grand High Priest has no inherent right to set aside a By-Law of a Chapter when the same is a proper Masonic law and does not interfere with Constitution or General Regulations of the Grand Chapter.”

Companion Thomas J. Corson, Chairman of Committee on History, reported that he desired further time, in order to gain, if possible, some information in regard to a Chapter established by authority of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey at New Brunswick, in 1805.

The request was granted, and permission was given to the Chairman of the Committee to publish the History, in pamphlet form, before the next meeting of the Grand Chapter, if he should deem it expedient to do so.

Both decisions of the G. H. P. were confirmed by Grand Chapter. There were no appeals or grievances.

The report on correspondence, by Comp. Corson, covers 130 pages, and is full of good things, in the author's usual happy style. Canada for 1875 receives a good notice.

NEW YORK.

This jurisdiction, with its 180 Subordinate Chapters and nearly 19,000 members, is well entitled to the foremost position among Grand Chapters, not merely on account of its numerical strength, in which it is *facile princeps*, but also for the many able and cultured men, who are deeply interested in Masonry, and for the general intelligence of the Craft at large throughout the State.

Their Proceedings, however, are not as lengthy as one would naturally expect them to be in so large a body, but everything appears to be systematized well, and the business is carried on with great regularity.

The address of Comp. Joseph B. Chaffee, G. H. P., is well up to the standard of previous ones, and fully sustains his well-earned reputation. He thinks there is no necessity at present for a permanent Grand Lecturer. He would be glad to see the dispensing power entirely abrogated, or at least never used, save in the most pressing emergencies, with which we heartily agree. He calls attention to the Triennial Convocation of the General Grand Chapter, U. S., which is to be held in Buffalo, on the third Tuesday of August next. We hope to be present with a large delegation from Canada.

On foreign relations and these reports he says:—

“ Our relations with all corresponding bodies continue to be of the most satisfactory and fraternal character, as will be found more fully set forth in the report on foreign correspondence. I embrace this occasion to impress upon you all the great value of this annual contribution to the literature of Royal Arch Masonry, involving as it does great labour on the part of its author, and affording not only a history of the Craft during the past year, but giving the views of able minds upon a variety of topics of great interest to every Royal Arch

Mason. No better preparation for the discharge of your duty as representatives of your respective Chapters and as guardians of the Institution can be found, than is contained in the careful study of this annual review of the doings of our sister jurisdictions ; nor can I give you any better advice, than that you should avail yourselves of the means placed ready to your hands by an efficient and energetic committee."

Comp. Chaffee then cautions the Grand Chapter against too much legislation, and advises a prompt and industrious attention to the business of the meeting. From his conclusion we learn that he has completed fourteen years of official services in the Grand Chapter.

The total receipts for the year were \$13,636.58, of which \$13,026.00 were for dues. Funds on hand \$5,151.22. The present membership is 18,539, showing a decrease from last year of 324. This decrease is attributed to the protracted and general depression of business.

The Committee on the Address pay a well-deserved compliment to Comp. Chaffee :—

" And here, perhaps, our duties might be considered as ended. But we cannot take leave of an officer whose address clothed in such beautiful and well chosen words, words which come home to all our hearts, thus unceremoniously. If his duties should close with this Annual Convocation, he may be dismissed with the ordinary resolution of thanks—a kind of customary funeral benediction, serving as a text for an embellishment certificate. He tells the story in his own simple way : for fourteen years he has served this Grand Chapter. But when his successor shall have been installed he will have ceased to be our servant. And we ought to say to him, as this Committee, the organ of the Grand Chapter, do say, how much we owe to him for that long and faithful discharge of duty ; for the unwearied zeal and diligence he has displayed ; for the talent and ability he has exhibited, and above all, for that bold fidelity and attachment to his own Grand Chapter which he, in connection with his like honoured colleagues, had opportunity to display upon at least two memorable occasions among their peers of the nation.

" Fewest words are the best, and our expression of commendation is best made in two little words, ' well done ! ' "

Comp. John O. Cole, Grand Secretary of this Grand Chapter from 1825 to 1867, a period of forty-two years, visited the Grand Chapter, was presented to the Grand High Priest, and by him introduced to the Companions with appropriate remarks, which were suitably and feelingly responded to by the venerable Companion.

A number of proposed amendments to the constitution were laid over until the next Annual Convocation. One of these permits the appointment of a Grand Lecturer; another reduces the fee on exaltations, payable to Grand Chapter, from three dollars to one dollar; and a third (which we certainly think should be adopted) provides that a Companion in good standing who applies for a dimit shall receive it without further action by his Chapter.

There were no appeals or grievances.

The following resolutions were proposed by Comp. Simons and adopted :—

“Resolved, That the long and meritorious service of our retiring Grand High Priest M. E. Comp. Joseph B. Chaffee, demands at our hands an expression of approval of his official career and our fraternal regard for him as a man and a Royal Arch Mason.

“Resolved, That we therefore record our great satisfaction with the zealous efforts of M. E. Comp. Chaffee to promote the interests of this Grand Chapter and of Royal Arch Masonry in general, and, as a tangible evidence thereof, direct the appointment of a Committee of three with power to procure and present him a suitable testimonial of our regard.”

In the report on correspondence, under the head of “Alabama,” Comp. Ogden has some remarks, which we copy with approval :—

“We do not fully agree with him in the following. ‘What has the Chapter to do with the doings of a Blue Lodge, and particularly in a question of discipline? how are they to take cognizance of a trial pending in a body entirely independent? Expulsion from a Lodge, it is true, does cut off from the Chapter, but it cannot reach the standing of a member until the final act; up to that time the presumption is of innocence, even if within the jurisdiction of the Chapter; but the presumption is that the Chapter knows nothing until duly notified, or until the fact becomes notorious. Our view is, that in the absence of charges in the Chapter the

member must be held to be in good standing, and therefore is entitled to a dinit.' ”

Our Proceedings for 1875 and 1876 come in for a fair share of attention. He thus notices the decisions of Comp. Seymour in 1875 :—

“The Grand Z. reports five decisions, made by him during the year. The first, it seems to us, is of doubtful validity, viz. : that a Principal cannot attain title and rank of a past officer unless he has served twelve months, or, that serving four or five months does not entitle him to rank as Past Principal, and sit and vote in a Chapter. We cannot see the force of this ruling. If a member be elected regularly, and is regularly installed and serves for four months, is he not to all intents and for all purposes an officer ? and when his term expires, why is he not a ‘past officer ?’ Is it time of service that constitutes the fact of holding office ? We confess our inability to see it. The matter is one of fact, not of time, and being regularly and legally in office completes the fact ; and when the term, short or long, is ended, the officer is a ‘past officer,’ and entitled to all the privileges and benefits which that fact confers. This seems to us common sense, sound logic, and hence must be good law.

“The third decision—that it requires the presence of nine members of a Chapter to open and transact business—the Committee, to whom the matter was referred, dissented from the decision, holding that visiting companions, or those of other Chapters, might help to make up the nine. On the whole, and after mature reflection, we think the decision of the Grand Z. correct.”

On both of these points we are prepared to uphold the decision of our Grand Chapter. As to the latter, there is very little necessary to be said. In the absence of a provision in the constitution on the subject, it is more a matter of opinion than of Masonic law. In some parts of the country, which are thinly settled, there are Chapters in good working order and with a large membership, but so scattered that sometimes it is impossible to get a quorum of the actual members at the meetings, and it would be a great hardship on these worthy Chapters to prevent them from availing themselves of the assistance of visitors to make up the required number.

As to past rank, we hold that twelve months is a term of office, and nothing less. In Grand Lodge in 1865 it was held by our then Grand Master, M. W. Bro. Simpson, and approved by Grand

Lodge, that a full year's service as W. M. was absolutely necessary to entitle a brother to a seat in Grand Lodge as a Past Master. In Grand Chapter we have followed the same ruling. We must find fault with the logic of Comp. Ogden, or rather with his application. Of course it is not the time of service that constitutes the fact of holding office, and equally, of course, when the term (*short*) is ended, the officer is a "past" officer in the ordinary sense of having *once* held the office. But he is not a past officer in the Masonic sense of having completed a full term of service in that office. In Masonry it is the length of the time of service that constitutes past rank. Unless a full term is completed the privileges of past rank are not attainable. Otherwise, and according to Comp. Ogden's "sound logic," if carried to its legitimate conclusion, the service of one month, or even of a single day, will be just as efficacious as service for the full year. In ordinary societies and corporations this matter is of little importance, as no peculiar privileges are enjoyed by their past officers. An ex-president or an ex-mayor has nothing but his *prestige*. But in Masonry there are certain peculiar and very important rights pertaining to past rank, and these are only conferred, and should only be conferred for actual service in the particular office for the full term.

We also copy the remarks of Comp. Ogden on our District system :—

"The superintendents of the twelve separate districts made reports of the condition of Capitular Masonry in their respective districts. On the whole we like this district system ; Canada is a large territory, much of it is sparsely inhabited, and by division into districts each locality has a visit from some qualified and commissioned official, who can advise and give instruction, and, as a consequence, true knowledge and correct work must be widely disseminated. The Grand Chapter of Canada is, without question, a body of great intelligence and worth, its proceedings indicate this beyond dispute ; and the Royal Craft is evidently in good order, as well as in good hands, in Her Majesty's Dominions on this continent, particularly in the Dominion of Canada."

There is also an excellent address, by Comp. James Byron Murray, Grand Chaplain, on "The Effects of the Captivity and the Second Temple," from which we would gladly make some extracts did our space permit.

PENNSYLVANIA.

This jurisdiction claims to be the oldest Grand Chapter on this Continent. Their ways and usages are peculiar to themselves, and different from those of all other Grand Chapters. They have Mark Lodges, working that degree alone, under warrants entirely separate from the Chapters. The Past Master's degree has no place in their system of Capitular Masonry. It is conferred under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge. Those brethren who are desirous of obtaining the Royal Arch degree, and who have not served as W. M. of a Craft Lodge, must obtain a dispensation from the Grand Master of Masons to receive the Past Master's degree before being admitted to the Arch. In the Chapter they confer only the Most Excellent and Royal Arch degrees.

At the Quarterly Communication, held on August 3, 1876, the death was announced of Comp. Halman Baugh, P. G. H. P., and a eulogy by Comp. Charles E. Meyer was read. From this we learn that—

“Companion Baugh was perhaps better known throughout this jurisdiction than any other Royal Arch Mason.

“Having a very retentive memory and being a good ritualist, made him sought for by Royal Arch Masons desirous of light and instruction, and it is needless to say that they were gratified at the manner in which Companion Baugh imparted his knowledge.

“He made more Mark Master Masons, Most Excellent Masters, and Royal Arch Masons, than any other person, the number running over the thousand.

“Always ready to help the work along, willing to do all, and in some cases everything; filling every position in the Chapter, he was never so happy as when at work.

“Royal Arch Masonry in Pennsylvania owes to him in a great measure its present proud position.”

There are ninety-seven Chapters, with a membership of 10,321; and three Mark Lodges, with 2,114 members. The receipts were \$6,224.13, and they have \$17,000 invested in the six per cent. Redemption Loan of the Grand Lodge.

Their elections are held each year at the quarterly meeting in November, and the officers are installed at the close of the Annual Convocation, which is held on St. John's Day, in December. From the address of the retiring G. H. P., Comp. Geo. E. Wagner, we learn that he made a large number of official visits, which he recounts in detail. His meetings were well attended, and great interest manifested.

We copy his decisions, as they contain some new points and are worthy of note :—

“ 1st. ‘ Can a High Priest elect be installed and act as such without having first conferred upon him the order of High Priesthood, and have it conferred on him subsequently ? ’ I answered, ‘ Yes. ’

“ 2nd. ‘ Can the order of High Priesthood be conferred at a place other than the Chapter Hall ? ’ I answered, ‘ No, and only in the Chapter Hall *at a meeting of the Chapter*, when a proper number of qualified Companions are present. ’

“ 3rd. A District Deputy Grand High Priest cannot by virtue of his presence authorize a special election in a Chapter to fill a vacancy among its officers. Such an election can only be held by virtue of a dispensation of the Most Excellent Grand High Priest duly issued at the request of the Chapter.

“ 4th. The vails in the Chapter Hall must reach from wall to wall.

“ 5th. In this case the By-Laws of the Chapter provide that any member who shall have paid full dues for twelve consecutive years may be declared a privileged member ; they further provide that such members shall pay but fifty cents per year as dues. A member of the Chapter was suspended for non-payment of dues, subsequently paid them, was placed in good Masonic standing, and readmitted to the Chapter. He now claims that the Chapter should declare him a privileged member, alleging that he paid dues for the year in which he stood suspended, which year included would make a payment of full dues for the twelve consecutive years. I decided that when he was suspended his membership ceased, and did not again commence until he was readmitted, and that the Chapter could not charge or collect dues from him for the time his suspension existed, and that the twelve years must be counted as commencing from the time of his readmission.

“ 6th. In this case an applicant was rejected by an unfavourable report of a committee. One year elapses. The committee find they were misinformed and would now report favourably. Question. ‘ How can they reach the case ? ’ Answer. ‘ Let the Chapter ask the Grand Chapter for

permission to receive a new petition, and if granted, proceed to act thereon.'

"7th. The Chapter degrees cannot be conferred by a Chapter by virtue of a dispensation, but only on regular petition, which must lie over one month as prescribed by the Constitution of the Grand Chapter."

The fifth decision above quoted is, we think, open to question. It is the almost universal practice in cases of suspension for non-payment of dues, where the Companion desires to be re-admitted, to charge and collect from him the arrears for which he was suspended, and also dues for the time during which he was suspended. This being done, the reason for the above decision fails.

The report on correspondence is by Comp. Charles E. Meyer. It is well written and very interesting. He gives in full our proceedings at the Special Convocation to dedicate the Chapter Room at Hamilton, and notices 1875 and 1876. Under the head of "Alabama" we have the following information:—

"With us in Pennsylvania, when the High Priest of a Chapter is installed, he receives the order of High Priesthood in the presence of those only who had previously received it. It is conferred without fee, and is an official degree, the possession of which he is entitled to, and to which his Companions have elected him.

"We are coming to believe that there are too many degrees in Masonry, and that the declaration of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania in olden times is true, 'that Ancient Masonry consists of but three degrees, the Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft, and the Master Mason, to which is added the Holy Royal Arch.'

"The ingenuity of man has conceived many hundred degrees, but take away the first three, the Apprentice, Fellow Craft, and Master, and the Royal Arch, and these air castles vanish.

"It is all very well to endeavour to keep the official degrees exclusive, but we believe also, that Royal Arch Masons should act with justice. If they elect a Companion as their High Priest, give him freely, without any unnecessary forms or red tape, what he is entitled to.

"In England they have official degrees for their first three officers: First Principal, or Zerubbabel; second Principal, or Joshua; and third Principal, or Haggai. None can be present at the conferring of these degrees but those who have received them. The modes of recognition are different and distinct, and at the opening of the Chapters none are

allowed to be present but the three Principals and Past Principals. After the opening the members are admitted. These degrees are essentially different from our order of High Priesthood.

“In Pennsylvania we conferred the order of High Priesthood as early as 1824. Who introduced it we know not, but it came as a natural sequence to the independence of our Grand Chapter, when the Mark and Most Excellent Master’s degrees were recognized among us.

“We allow any three High Priests who may be in possession of the order to confer it upon the High Priest at the time of his installation.”

Our practice is the same as England, but there is a slight error in the above. The Second Principal is Haggai, and the Third Principal is Joshua.

A few years ago it was a matter of some complaint that our Pennsylvania Companions kept themselves too much to themselves, and that their published proceedings contained but slight information as to their condition and doings. In answer to something of this kind, Comp. Meyer thus explains :—

“If our Companions of other jurisdictions will only tell us what they would like us to print in our Proceedings we perhaps might accommodate them. We print all we do. Our Grand Chapter is harmonious, the Chapters in good working order and prosperous, and we have nothing to do when we meet except open and close, exemplify the work, elect our officers, and install them. We do not refer our Grand High Priest’s address to a committee for report thereon. We do not permit any appeal from the decision of that Grand Officer, therefore there can be no business arising from this annual address. At the November Communication we have the report from the Committee on Finance ; this is printed in the Proceedings, and is most interesting to the Royal Arch Masons in Pennsylvania, although not to other jurisdictions. Then at the Annual Communication on St. John the Evangelist’s Day we have the report of the Committee on Correspondence.”

Under “Kentucky” we have a glimpse of their charities, proving that they are fully alive to the calls of distress, and displaying a great and good work, worthy of all commendation :—

“Yes, we have a magnificent temple, of which we are justly proud, yet we do not forget the poor. We have, under the control of our Grand Lodge, [two of the greatest charities in this country. The Grand Lodge Charity Fund, amounting to some \$60,000, relieving the widows and orphans of brethren (who were in good standing at the time of their death), distributing annually over \$3,000. Then we have the Stephen

Girard bequest, amounting to some \$60,000, distributing over \$3,000 annually to worthy distressed brethren. Again, we have the Subordinate Lodges, Mark Lodges, Chapters, Councils, and Commanderies, distributing in charity thousands of dollars annually. None worthy of aid are turned away empty-handed, and when in the future we do erect our Masonic Home, it will be one worthy of the name."

We also find in this excellent report some information about Ireland, and the history of the Royal Arch in the Emerald Isle. This will be new to most of us, and we gladly give our readers the opportunity of perusing it:—

IRELAND.

"The Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania is under many obligations to Most Excellent Companion James H. Neilson, of Dublin, Ireland, who at our request has furnished the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania the following history of the Royal Arch Degree in Ireland. In a private letter accompanying the history he says that the Irish ritual from beginning to end, first to thirty-third degree, is different from that of every other county. With pleasure we submit the sketch.

"THE IRISH ROYAL ARCH DEGREE, WITHIN WHICH IS NOW CONTAINED THE DEGREES FORMERLY KNOWN AS THE EXCELLENT, SUPER-EXCELLENT, THE VIRTUAL MASTER, AND ROYAL ARCH.

"The earliest known record of the conferring of the degrees formerly known as 'The Higher Degrees,' is that contained in the Minute Book of the Kilwinning High Knight Templars Lodge of Ireland, under date the 24th of January, 1780. There is a lodge resolution that 'the lodge should henceforth confer the higher degrees.' No definition is given of these higher degrees so arranged to be conferred. The minutes of the 6th of March following for the first time record the conferring of the degrees of Excellent and Super-Excellent on a Brother Darling, and it is presumed these degrees are two of 'The Higher Degrees, referred to in the minutes of 24th January, 1780.

"The subsequent minutes up to the 16th of August, 1804, (when the book ceases), contain several entries of the conferring from time to time of these degrees.

"The earliest record of the conferring of the Royal Arch Degree is also to be found in the same minute book, under date of 17th of April, 1780, wherein it is recorded that 'the Royal Arch Degree was conferred' on several brethren therein named.

"These minutes contain several entries of the conferring of the Royal Arch Degree down to the 16th August, 1804, when, as before mentioned, the book ceases.

“ The earliest minute from which the title of the presiding officer can be obtained is that of the 4th of December, 1780, wherein he is described as ‘ the Worshipful High Priest in the chair.’ ”

“ From the same book of minutes, under date the 2nd of December, 1781, it has been ascertained that the degrees of Excellent, Super-Excellent, Royal Arch, and High Knights Templars, were conferred at the same meeting on the same brethren. When the degree of Virtual Master was first instituted in Ireland, is unknown. It certainly was not worked in the Kilwinning H. K. T. Lodge, or Lodges, 2 or 620, all of which lodges were the leading lodges in Dublin from 1783, to 1804, and worked the Excellent, Super-Excellent, and Royal Arch degrees. No record exists even since 1804 in the minute books of Lodges 2 or 620 (which are still two of the leading lodges in Dublin), of its ever having been conferred in them.

“ The origin of this degree of the Virtual Master seems to have been that a law was passed by the Grand Royal Arch Chapter (but at what date is unknown), by which it was ordered that the degree of Royal Arch should not be conferred on any Brother who had not passed the chair of a Blue Lodge. This degree seems thereupon to have been instituted for the purpose of qualifying Brethren for the Royal Arch Degree who had not passed the chair of a Blue Lodge.

“ Serious inconveniences having arisen in Blue Masonry from the brethren who had received this degree of Virtual Master, considering and often assuming the rank of Past Masters, also from certain other causes, the old degrees of Excellent, Super-Excellent, the Virtual Master, and Royal Arch, were, on Wednesday, the 16th day of November, 1864, consolidated into one, and have since been styled the Royal Arch Degree.

“ The result of this change may be illustrated from the following, showing the changes made in the names of the Chapter officers :—

Names of Officers before
16th November, 1864.

Names since 16th November, 1864.

1 Principal,	- - - - -	<i>King.</i>
2 “	- - - - -	<i>High Priest.</i>
3 “	- - - - -	<i>Chief Scribe.</i>
3 Sojourners,	- - - - -	<i>Captain of the Host.</i>
		<i>Superintendent of the Tabernacle.</i>
		<i>Royal Arch Captain.</i>
2 Scribes,	- - - - -	<i>Captain Scarlet Veil.</i>
		“ <i>Purple Veil,</i>
H. P.,	- - - - -	“ <i>Blue Veil.</i>
Pursuivant,	- - - - -	<i>Janitor.</i>
A Paid Officer,	- - - - -	<i>An Hon. Officer.</i>

“ It need not be added that this change has made this degree completely

an Irish degree, unlike the degrees given in the good olden times, or as at present worked in any other country.

“A vain attempt was made to model this new degree after the fashion of the American degree, but the attempt did not succeed.

“This Royal Arch Degree does not seem ever to have been styled in Ireland ‘Holy Royal Arch.’”

SOUTH CAROLINA.

These Proceedings, like those of Georgia, have been received too late to admit of an extended notice.

The Grand High Priest, William K. Blake, thus opens his address :—

“We meet to-day at an eventful period in masonic as well as political history. During the year upon which we have entered, the Grand Lodge of South Carolina will celebrate its hundredth anniversary, while the year just closed has been made memorable also, by marking for us, as a nation, the growth of a century.

“To the toiling millions who have participated in its stirring events, the past has been a year freighted with joy to some ; with sorrow to others ; and with the stern demands of duty to all. Happy for each of us will it be if, with the fruitful instructions of the century to assist us, we recognize the full measure of our individual responsibility. If, amid the active employments and constantly recurring struggles and temptations of life, we have been temperate, prudent, faithful and just ; if our hands have ever been ready to assist the unfortunate, and our voices ever prompt to encourage the weak, to cheer the afflicted and save the fallen ; if, in these things, conscience witnesses to our fidelity, be assured that every act of duty thus performed will make its impress for good upon our lives, while every instance of failure will leave a scar which no healing art nor power of man can remove. Surely

“ ‘Meditation here
May think down hours to moments. Here the heart
May give a useful lesson to the head,
And learning wiser grow without his books.’

“These thoughts, I trust, are not inappropriate to a preparation for the important work for which we have convened.”

And he has the following remarks on the state of the Order :—

“I cannot congratulate you upon any increase in the number of Subordinate Chapters during the past year ; and, in my judgment, it is wiser for the present to revive and strengthen the Chapters on our roll, than, by

increasing the number in excess, to weaken and cripple those already existing.

“An enlarged survey of the history of Masonry cannot fail to produce the conviction, that the multiplication of Lodges and Chapters is frequently a delusive prosperity, and is to often followed by disease and death. It is hoped that a prudent foresight on our part will save us from such misfortune. While some Chapters, during the year, have failed, or been prevented by adverse circumstances from performing the full measure of their duty, others have been quietly and faithfully working in the quarries, and the fruit of their labors will be gathered in the coming years. It affords me special gratification to report, from assurances I have received, that the moral landmarks of our Order, wherein are embodied its life-giving principles, are receiving increased attention from the Chapters in different sections of the State, and I trust the day is not remote when their rightful supremacy shall be universally acknowledged, and when to be known as a Mason shall be-come, in every locality, a passport to respectability and character.”

He advocates the formation of a library in each Chapter, to meet the desire of many Companions, who wish to become enlightened in the literature of Masonry.

The Committee on the Address say :—

“That the pecuniary and other condition of the country, referred to in the address, has necessarily operated in Masonry as it has done in all the business of life. While then the Chapters in this jurisdiction may not exhibit any great amount of work, yet the absence of complaints or grievances give hopeful assurance that, while trouble and distress may be abroad, within the veils, harmony prevails.”

The following resolution was adopted :—

“*Resolved*, That the M. E. G. H. P. be requested—at least four months before the next Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter,—to designate one of the Subordinate Chapters located at or near the place selected by the Grand Chapter for its next Convocation, to exemplify the work of one or more of the Capitular degrees in full, before the Grand Chapter, at its next Annual Convocation, and shall also designate the degree, and notify such Subordinate Chapter, and that such Subordinate Chapter shall, upon being so designated, enter upon a course of preparation for such exemplification, regard being had by the officers thereof, to the most rigid accuracy in every particular of the work, any doubtful point being submitted to the M. E. G. H. P. for his decision thereon. And that such Subordinate Chapter shall exemplify the said work in the presence of the Grand Chapter, at the evening session of the Grand Chapter, on the first day of its next regular Convocation.”

The report on correspondence is by the Grand Secretary Comp. J. E. Burke, and notices our Proceedings for 1875.

TEXAS.

Comp. W. F. Swain, G. H. P., devoted the greater part of the year to visiting the Subordinate Chapters. He visited twenty-nine Chapters, conferred no less than 439 degrees, and travelled 3,487 miles; occupying 185 days. This is truly spoken of by the Committee on the Address as a "Herculean task." He remained with each Chapter from one to six days, and found the Companions generally anxious to learn the work. The good accomplished by these visits it is impossible to estimate.

Texas does not acknowledge the General Grand Chapter, and we find in this address their views on the establishment of new Chapters in unoccupied territory. We also copy some of the decisions of Comp. Swain, with all of which we agree:—

NEW MEXICO.

"On the 27th of December I received a communication from Burleson Chapter, No. 21, stating that certain Royal Arch Masons, residing in the territory of New Mexico, had applied to that Chapter to recommend an application made by them to the M. E. General Grand High Priest, of the body calling itself 'The General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons for the United States of America.' for a Dispensation to open and hold a R. A. Chapter at Silver City, New Mexico.

"Burleson Chapter very properly asked for instructions as to its legal duty by our laws upon the subject.

"The General Grand Body, by Article I, Section 2nd, and Article III, Section 1st, of its Constitution, asserts its claim to exclusive jurisdiction over all unoccupied territory in the United States. The Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Texas does not admit this doctrine, but asserts that, on application, it has the same right. See Article I, Section 11th of its Constitution. To argue the question of abstract right would result in no practical good in this case, because nine Royal Arch Masons, resident in a Territory, desiring to be congregated into a regular Chapter, undoubtedly have the right to decide to what jurisdiction they wish to attach themselves.

"In this case the petitioners elected the Masonic Body to which they wished to render obedience. A subordinate Chapter, of this Jurisdiction, can not officially communicate with any Masonic Grand Body, except

through this Grand Chapter. Section 12, Art. I, of our Constitution, relates only to petitions made to our Grand Chapter, or its proper officers. Burleson Chapter, No. 21, therefore, had no right to take action upon, or recommend, a petition addressed to another Masonic Grand Body. I so informed them, directing them to decline acting thereon, and fraternally suggest to our companions in New Mexico, that the nearest Chapter required upon their petition must be one acknowledging allegiance to the Masonic Body to whose officer the petition is addressed.

DECISIONS.

“Among the numerous questions submitted for my official action and decision, I append the following, with my replies :

I.

“When the Charter of a Chapter is arrested, what is the *status* of its members who are in good standing at the time of the arrest ?

“*Answer.*—They occupy the same position as dimitted or non-affiliated Royal Arch Masons, and are entitled to a certificate of their standing, at the time of said arrest, upon application to the Grand Secretary.

II.

Can an installed officer of the Chapter dimit before his term of office expires ?

“*Answer.*—According to the decisions of this Grand Chapter, he cannot. It is the installation, and not the election or appointment, that makes the officer ; and when so installed, he thereby assumes an obligation which he cannot, of his own free will set aside.

III.

Certain members of a Chapter petition for, and become charter members of, a new Chapter ; do they, by virtue of that act, without applying for a dimit, sever their connection from the original Chapter ?

“*Answer.*—They do not. The Grand Chapter of Texas recognizes dual membership, and it recognizes no method of dissolving that membership but by dimission, expulsion or death. Until said companions apply for a dimit, they are members of, and owe dues, to two Chapters.

IV.

“After a Brother has received the Mark and Past degrees, can a protest against his advancement be entertained ?

“*Answer.*—It is competent for a Companion to enter a protest at any stage of advancement. The High Priest should then order an investigation, and the further action of the Chapter be governed by the result of the

same. If the protest is sustained, the degrees should be withheld ; if not sustained, the remainder of the degrees may be conferred, the objecting companion having the right to appeal to the Grand Chapter, which appeal, with due notice, will operate as a suspension of all further proceedings, until the decision of the Grand Chapter can be obtained."

He suggested the changing of their Royal Arch *date*, which was four years in advance of all the rest of us, and the Grand Chapter adopted his suggestion by ordering that 530 should be added to the vulgar era, instead of 534 as heretofore.

They have now 135 Subordinates, with 5,000 members, and their condition has never been so prosperous as now.

The following resolutions were adopted :—

"Be it Resolved by the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Texas. That any Chapter under the jurisdiction of this Grand Chapter, which bears the name of a living person, be and are hereby authorized to change the same by a vote of two-thirds of the companions, members of the Chapter, present ; provided, that due notice shall be given of said proposed change, in open Chapter, and action therein postponed for two successive, regular meetings.

"Resolved, That subordinate Chapters under this jurisdiction be hereafter permitted to pay their dues to this Grand Chapter in United States currency ; provided, that all dues to the Grand Chapter, up to this Convocation, shall be paid in coin."

The Committee on Work were in attendance during the entire week previous to the opening of the Grand Chapter, and exemplified the work before a large number of assembled Companions, and this very excellent practice is to be continued next year.

Comp. Robert M. Elgin has a good report on correspondence, but Canada does not appear to have been received.

WEST VIRGINIA.

We are glad to receive, although at a late date (July 9th), the Proceedings of this Grand Chapter for 1874 and 1875. They are contained in one pamphlet, very well printed, and each page surrounded by a neat border.

Comp. Thomas H. Logan, G. H. P. in 1874, issued dispensations for three new Chapters. He recommends that steps be

taken to secure such a comity between the surrounding Grand Chapters as will accommodate the Chapters on the border in the matter of mutual jurisdiction over candidates. He has the following paragraph on their relations to the General Grand Chapter :—

“ It is hardly necessary that I should again refer to the subject of our relations to the General Grand Chapter of the United States. There is much in the general character of that organization to attract us. There are also great attractions in the personnel of the distinguished Companions who from time to time become its representatives. We feel that we could meet them with both joy and profit. All of the considerations against our immediate adhesion, briefly set forth in my last annual address, are still in force. It does not seem to me that we would at present be justified in any such radical changes in our ritual and organization, as would be rendered necessary by our adhesion to the General Grand Chapter.”

The report of the Committee on the Address of the G. H. P. was adopted as follows :—

“ Your Committee would very respectfully report that in their opinion it is inexpedient at this time to change our relations with the General Grand Chapter of the United States. Being as yet in our infancy, we do not desire to take a step which at some future time we might regret, and in a matter of so much moment as this, we deem it but just to ourselves to take more time for deliberation than the short space allotted to us.

“ Disclaiming the slightest shadow of obsequiousness, believing ourselves abundantly able to think and act for ourselves, we would point to our benign and much beloved mother, Virginia, and with the most profound respect for those who differ with us, give it as our belief that the time for our affiliation with the General Grand Chapter is not yet. We lay claim to such rights and privileges as those exercised and claimed by the Grand Chapter from whom we have our being, and to our minds, it would be an unwarranted piece of presumption for us, at this early stage of our existence, to take a step so much at variance with the usages and desires of the Grand Body that so lately exercised jurisdiction over our several Chapters.

“ In the minds of your Committee it is not advisable to disturb the status of the Council degrees. While we do not believe that these degrees belong legitimately to what is called the York Rite of Masonry, still, if the York Rite *must* have them, we believe that we have these degrees in their proper place, that is, before the Royal Arch. To confer them after the Royal Arch, would necessitate some important changes in the ritual of that degree as practiced in this jurisdiction, changes which your Committee

would feel, individually, unwilling to make. This is said with sincere respect for all those who differ with us as to the mode of working these degrees, and with the assurance that the Grand Chapter of West Virginia will always be found ready and willing to do that which shall be proven to be most conducive to the welfare of the royal art.

“ It appearing that some of our subordinate Chapters, situated in the border Counties, are desirous of entertaining the applications of Master Masons who are citizens of the adjoining States of Pennsylvania, Maryland, Ohio or Kentucky ; and also, that there are many Master Masons residing in West Virginia, who, for the sake of convenience of residence, desire to apply to and become members of Royal Arch Chapters in the States named ; your Committee would offer the following resolution :—

“ *Resolved*, that permission is hereby granted to the Chapters of Pennsylvania, Maryland, Ohio and Kentucky, that are situated in Counties adjoining our State, to entertain the applications of Master Masons who are residents of West Virginia, provided that the same courtesy be extended by Chapters in the States named, to those in West Virginia similarly situated ; and provided also, that the consent of the subordinate Chapter nearest the residence of the applicant be first obtained.”

1875.

At the Fifth Annual Convocation, in 1875, the G. H. P., Comp. H. McS. Gamble, delivered a brief address, in which he says :—

“ It affords me great pleasure to inform you that the Most Excellent General Grand Chapter of the United States, at its last Grand Convocation, held in Nashville, Tenn., upon the recommendation of Most Excellent Josiah Drummond, G. G. H. P., adopted a resolution extending to this Grand Chapter a cordial and fraternal recognition, and directing the Gen. Gr. Secretary to open correspondence with it in reference to a future organic union. Not having had sufficient opportunity to acquaint myself with the merits of the question, I am not prepared to suggest any specific line of action, yet it is a question that deserves your most careful, unprejudiced and deliberate consideration.”

The report of the Committee on the Revision of the Constitution was ordered to be sent to each Chapter, with a view of taking final action thereon at the next Annual Convocation.

It was resolved that hereafter the Proceedings of the Grand Chapter be published biennially.

Work in the “ Select Master ” and “ Royal Master ” degree

was exemplified. This is a novelty in Grand Chapter proceedings. We would like to know how the Grand Chapter got these degrees.

No report on correspondence.

WISCONSIN.

Comp. J. H. Evans, G. H. P., delivered an excellent address. He says :—

“We have abundant cause for congratulation upon the condition of Royal Arch Masonry in this jurisdiction, not so much for an increase in numbers, but for the watchfulness and care that seems manifest in guarding the doors of our Chapters against the admission of unworthy material. With but few exceptions all the Chapters are working harmoniously, and with a reasonable degree of uniformity. The history of this Grand Chapter may not show such a rapid increase in subordinates as some of our sister Grand jurisdictions, but for a healthful and substantial growth it will bear a favourable comparison with any. Fifty Chapters have been organized in this State, and all of them are at work ; we have no surrendered charters to file among our Archives ; proving that a cautious and conservative policy has always governed this Grand body in establishing Chapters only where there was a strong probability of their being well sustained.”

He appointed a number of representatives to sister Grand Chapters, and received notice of others in exchange. Among these we find Comp. R. D. Pulford, from Canada, and Comp. W. H. Weller, to Canada.

He issued dispensations for three new Chapters. We copy some of his decisions :—

“*Case 1st.* ‘At our last Convocation there was one black ball cast against a candidate ; after the Chapter was closed the Companions who cast it withdrew his objection. Is it necessary to get the unanimous consent of those present and voting, for a new ballot ; or, has the High Priest the power to declare the ballot clear at the next Convocation ?’

“*Decision.*—As soon as the Chapter is closed the record of that Convocation is presumptively made up ; after that, the unanimous consent of all the Companions present at a Convocation where a rejecting ballot has been cast, is not sufficient to order a new ballot ; nor can the High Priest at a subsequent Convocation declare the ballot clear. The candidate must wait until the expiration of the constitutional period.

“*Case 2nd.* ‘About three years ago a Companion moved from this state

to Kansas; recently he forwarded his dues and applied for a dimit; a Companion objected to granting dimit, and preferred charges against the absent Companion for unmasonic conduct. Has our Chapter jurisdiction over the Companion for offenses committed while a resident of this state, or must he be tried in the state of Kansas by the Chapter in whose jurisdiction he now resides? If our Chapter has jurisdiction, must he be tried at a Regular or Special Convocation?

“ Decision.—The alleged offence having been committed in the jurisdiction of the Chapter of which the Companion is a member, he must be tried by said Chapter. His trial can take place at either a Regular or Special Convocation.

“ Case 3rd. ‘A brother in good standing and member of a Lodge in Pennsylvania has resided in this jurisdiction about three months; he now wishes to receive the Capitular degrees. Have we a right to to entertain his petition?’

“ Decision.—Consent should first be obtained from the Chapter from whose jurisdiction the candidate hails; otherwise one year should elapse that he may gain a residence in the state and jurisdiction. This case I decided in the absence of any written law upon our statutes, and contrary to the practice that prevails in some part of our jurisdiction, for the following reasons; First, that an applicant for the degrees, should reside a reasonable length of time in a jurisdiction, in order that the Companions with whom he wishes to affiliate may have opportunities of forming his acquaintance. Second, to avoid as far as possible any conflict with a foreign Grand jurisdiction, I therefore recommend that a regulation be adopted at this session, fixing a definite period which a candidate (hailing from a foreign jurisdiction) must reside in this state, before his petition for the Capitular degrees can be entertained by any Chapter in this jurisdiction.

“ Case 4th. ‘Is it proper to admit a brother who is not a Mark Master into a Lodge of Past Masters (working as a part of our Chapter,) and there conferring the Past Master’s degree to qualify him to preside over a Symbolic Lodge?’

“ Decision.—No brother can be admitted into a Past Master’s Lodge who has not received the Mark Master’s degree. Such Lodge cannot confer the Past Master’s degree upon the master elect of a Symbolic Lodge.

“ Case 5th. ‘A Companion Royal Arch Mason who received the degree in a Lodge in the city of Liverpool, England, having a diploma from the Grand Chapter in England, and proof of his dimit from Lodge and Chapter, but has never received the Mark, Past and Most Excellent degrees, wishes to affiliate with our Chapter. What course shall we pursue?’

“ Decision.—Having received satisfactory proof that the candidate was

a Royal Arch Mason, made in a Royal Arch Chapter in Great Britain, in accordance with the law which obtains in that jurisdiction ; proceed by conferring the Mark, Past and Most Excellent degrees, that the candidate may be healed and become a regular Royal Arch Mason."

He reports that the reprint of their proceedings from 1850 to 1863, inclusive, is completed and ready for delivery.

Concerning the Ritual, he says :—

"During my administration as your presiding officer; I have endeavoured (and I believe with some degree of success) to eliminate those parasites of mirth and levity which in some of our Chapters are suffered to mar the beauty and sublimity of two important degrees of Capitular Masonry. Indeed, I find some Companions who believe that these excrescences are a part of the work and ritual which the candidate must necessarily endure before he can be permitted to see the glories of the inner sanctuary. I wish I could impress my Companions with the fact that there is nothing in the true work that would detract in the least from the character of those conferring the degrees, or give offence to the most sensitive and refined mind in the person of a candidate. Every step taken in the ladder of Masonry, from the lowest to the highest degree, it is intended to convey to the mind of the candidate an important lesson in the most impressive manner ; anything contrary to this principle will be found upon investigation to have no part or place in the work or ritual of any of the degrees. You would not deem it necessary when showing your farm to a friend or Companion, to lead him through bogs and ditches, or over rough and stony ground, to convince him that such places exist upon your premises. These you could describe as you pass along, and I can assure you that your oral description would have a better if not more abiding influence upon his mind, than it would if you had persisted in taking him through and over them. At least he would leave your farm with a better idea of its value, and a more exalted opinion of you as a Companion and gentleman. This simile may not be applicable to many of the Chapters represented here to-day, but if there are those to whom it does apply, I trust that due reflection on the part of the Companions, and the good sense and firmness of the High Priests, will remove the blemish from our work."

The Grand Chapter of Colorado was recognized.

The Committee on Work and Lectures recommend that schools of instruction be held as follows :—

"At each Annual Convocation there shall be appointed a committee of five, of whom the Grand Lecturer shall be one, who shall designate the

Chapters to be visited ; and where two or more Chapters are so located that a School of Instruction held in the hall of any one of them will accommodate two or more Chapters, the Committee shall locate a school at such place ; provided, that the whole number of Chapters receiving instruction in any one year shall not exceed one-half of the whole number of Chapters in the State. Provided further, that the Grand High Priest shall have authority, when in his judgment it is necessary, to direct the Grand Lecturer to visit other Chapters than those designated by the Committee.

“ The duration of the School of Instruction shall be as follows : When not more than two Chapters are represented, one day ; when three or more Chapters are represented, two days ; provided, that the Companions receiving instruction may extend the time at their own expense.

“ It shall be the duty of the High Priest of a Chapter, when notified by the Grand Lecturer that his Chapter is to be visited or a School of Instruction to be held, to attend the same with the King, Scribe, Captain of the Host and Principal Sojourner, or their representatives, from the members of the same Chapter. It shall also be the duty of the Chapter where Schools of Instruction are appointed to be held, to furnish lights, fuel, &c., at their own expense.

“ The High Priests shall severally exhibit to the Grand Lecturer their records of proceedings, and carefully note his instructions in regard to the manner of keeping the same.

“ The Grand Lecturer shall receive for his services ten dollars for each day he shall hold a School of Instruction or instruct a Chapter, which shall be in full for such services and all expenses and disbursements.”

The third decision of the G. H. P., above quoted, was overruled by the Grand Chapter. The Committee on Jurisprudence, whose report was adopted, say :—

“ The decision in case number 3, your Committee cannot approve, for the reason that we believe, that when a brother has removed from a foreign jurisdiction and located in this, he has by that act severed his Masonic relations with that jurisdiction, and they have lost all control over him ; and that the granting of such permission would have no effect whatever.”

Resolutions were adopted as follows :—

“ *Resolved*, That the Grand Chapter recommends to the subordinate Chapters the abolition of affiliation fees, and in place thereof require the prepayment of the regular dues for the current year.

“ *Resolved*, That we extend to all regular Grand Chapters of Royal Arch Masons a hearty fraternal greeting, but especially to those Grand Chapters whose Grand Representatives have presented their credentials at this Convocation. Second,

“ *Resolved*, That the said Representatives be received and accredited to the several Grand Chapters they represent ; and also that they be now introduced to this Grand Chapter, and received with the honours of Royal Arch Masonry.”

Canada for 1874 receives a good notice at the hands of Comp. J. P. C. Cottrill in his report on correspondence. We regret that these Proceedings and his report, having been received after our report was closed, cannot now have as extended a notice as we would have given had time permitted.

STATISTICS.

For the following valuable table of statistics we are indebted to the Committee on Foreign Correspondence of the Grand Chapter of New York, Comps. D. A. Ogden, Lewis G. Hoffman and Z. Dederick. It combines the latest information we have been able to obtain on this important subject, and it can be studied with advantage by all our Companions who are interested in observing the progress of Capitular Masonry.

In times of financial difficulty it is but natural to presume that the membership of Chapters should decrease, and that the number of exaltations should be less than in more prosperous years. This result is not to be regretted, as we can all easily understand that it is not owing to any lack of zeal or interest in the Royal Craft.

“*Festina lente*” is, in Masonry, a perfectly safe and sound maxim to go by, and a short period of rest will but result in adding strength and solidity to our beloved Order.

GRAND CHAPTERS.	Exaltations.	Affiliations and Restorations.	Dimissions.	Suspensions, Expulsions and Exclusions.	Deaths.	Affiliated Royal Arch Masons.	GRAND HIGH PRIESTS.	RESIDENCE.
Alabama,	56	44	45	102	24	1,441	James E. Cobb,	Tuskegee.
Arkansas,	62	19	42	28	23	1,256	E. R. Du Val,	Fort Smith.
California,	294	100	68	49	39	2,781	Alexander G. Abell,	San Francisco.
Canada,	400	41	100	51	38	3,102	L. H. Henderson,	Belleville.
Colorado,	40	13	15	13	2	347	Irving W. Stanton,	Peublo.
Connecticut,	177	11	17	46	49	3,686	Henry W. Coye,	Rockville.
Delaware,	13	4	3	8	3	304	Willis Holden,	Wilmington.
Dist. Columbia,	64	22	19	38	24	1,103	George B. Clark,	Washington.
Florida,*	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	389		
Georgia,	129	26	75	68	28	1,869	Luther J. Glenn,	Atlanta.
Illinois,	902	140	256	217	121	10,487	Haswell C. Clarke,	Kankakee.
Indiana,	420	55	118	108	66	4,918	Reuben Peden,	Knightstown.
Iowa,	396	57	141	68	25	4,134	Horace S. Winslow,	Newton.
Kansas,	115	32	47	17	9	1,153	Dwight Byington,	Leavenworth.
Kentucky,	268	54	125	167	71	3,794	James W. Stanton,	Brooksville.
Louisiana,	63	12	35	83	31	1,570	Samuel J. Powell,	St. Francisville
Maine,	231	9	85	19	45	3,994	Henry. L. Paine,	Portland.
Maryland,	73	8	29	13	23	1,251	H. L. Emmons, Jr.,	Baltimore.
Massachusetts,	614	.....	116	52	122	8,912	Alfred F. Chapman,	Boston.
Michigan,	507	77	187	130	65	7,255	William Brown,	Battle Creek.
Minnesota,	148	30	34	28	13	1,396	R. J. Marvin,	Hastings.
Mississippi,	111	32	87	109	37	2,327	Harvey W. Walter.	Holly Springs.
Missouri,	287	64	131	138	38	4,267	Joseph S. Browne,	St. Joseph.
Nebraska,	70	15	19	3	2	671	Chas. F. Goodman,	Omaha.
Nevada,†	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
New Hampshire,	104	.....	.....	.....	.....	2,091	John D. Patterson,	Manchester.
New Jersey,	229	28	38	166	31	2,718	Edward Goeller,	Newark.
New York,	971	196	316	940	235	18,539	George Van Vliet,	New York.
North Carolina,	42	10	14	6	9	842	Thos. S. Kenan,	Wilson.
Nova Scotia,*	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	265	Stephen R. Sircom,	Halifax.
Ohio,	504	167	191	286	39	8,579	Reub. C. Lemmon,	Toledo.
Oregon,	76	12	13	9	1	391	John B. Lee,	Corvallis.
Pennsylvania,	899	309	298	192	110	9,830	George E. Wagner,	Philadelphia.
Rhode Island,*	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,609	W. T. C. Wardwell,	Bristol.
South Carolina,	92	13	29	12	10	948	William K. Blake,	Spartanburg.
Tennessee,	118	27	127	124	53	3,788	A. S. Currey,	Trenton.
Texas,	257	145	187	89	65	3,998	W. F. Swain,	Galveston.
Vermont,	102	10	24	7	32	1,804	Edward S. Dana,	Cornwall.
Virginia,	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,478	Wm. H. Lambert,	Alexandria.
West Virginia,	39	6	11	26	.....	497	H. M. Gamble,	Moorefield.
Wisconsin,	210	46	107	70	33	2,891	William C. Swain,	Milwaukee.
	9083	1834	3145	3437	1571	132,675		

* Members from last reports received.

† Proceedings not received.

CONCLUSION.

Our task is now ended, and we present the result of our labors for the consideration of our Companions. The duty performed by this Committee is in many respects an onerous one. It is no light task to read carefully through the thousands of pages of these Proceedings, and to select therefrom the most interesting and instructive passages. Besides making these selections, it is also necessary that they should be so combined as to make the

report readable, and at the same time to be so condensed as to prevent it from being tedious

We believe that these reports are now eagerly sought for by all those who are desirous of "further light," and they form about the only means (except the Masonic periodicals) whereby many of our Companions can make themselves acquainted with Masonic matters in other jurisdictions.

We have striven to make our Reports worthy of a place in the Masonic literature of the day, and although the labor has been on many occasions severe, and has occupied valuable time, which probably should have been devoted to other purposes, still the task has not been without its bright side.

It is pleasant to be brought into contact with the many zealous Masonic writers, who are so ably furthering the objects of our Institution. From them we can gather words of wisdom and bright thoughts clothed in happy language. And it is still more pleasant to be able to watch and note the many beneficent effects of the teachings received in the Masonic Brotherhood. How the poor and distressed are relieved and assisted; how the erring brother is kindly and fraternally reclaimed; how the whole standard of human morality is raised by the united action of men banded together to do good. All these and many other deeds of mercy and charity in its broadest sense cause the heart of the faithful to leap with joy and glow with fervour, and rejoice at belonging to an Institution capable of such excellent results.

We regret that a number of Proceedings of other Grand Chapters have not reached us at this date. Our Grand Scribe E. informs us that he has sent us all that he received. We cannot account for his non-reception of the others. In these days of improved postal facilities it seems strange that any should have missed. However, we can only hope that we may be more fortunate another time.

In conclusion, we are glad to be able to report harmony prevailing throughout the Capitular Branch of Freemasonry. There

is also a reasonable degree of prosperity. The increase in membership has not been so great as in former years, but, on the whole, it is satisfactory to know that the Order is progressing, and that there is a corresponding advancement in morals and true fraternity.

All which is fraternally submitted.

HENRY ROBERTSON,

Chairman.

COLLINGWOOD, ONT.,

July 3rd, 1877.

NOTE.—Since the above Report was written we have received the following Proceedings, but too late to be noticed this year. We are consequently compelled, much to our regret, to leave them over till next year. They are:—Connecticut, 1876-77; Maine, 1876; Nebraska, 1876; Nova Scotia, 1876; Ohio, 1876; Tennessee, 1875-76, Virginia, 1875-76.

INDEX TO PROCEEDINGS, 1877.

Amendments to Constitution	193
Annual Convocation, where held	161
“ “ next place of meeting.....	199
“ Statement, Grand Scribe E.....	203 204
“ “ Grand Treasurer	205
Ark Chapter, Warrant granted	198
ADDRESS OF GRAND Z.....	170
The M. E. Grand Z.....	172
Sister Grand Chapters	176
Representatives, Exchange of.....	175
Dist. of Columbia, Representatives near Grand Chapter of....	172
Foreign Correspondence, as to Report on.....	177
A Retrospect	170
New Chapters.....	175
Finances and Statistics.....	177
Amendments to Constitution	178
Conclusion	179
Audit and Finance, Report on	193 194 195
Accounts, current passed.....	195
At Rest	218
Balances in Ledger	209 211
Credentials of Representatives Grand Chapter Quebec presented....	200
Credentials, Report of Committee on	169
Chairman of Executive Committee	220
Chapters Represented	147—152, 163—169
Circulars issued by Royal Arch Masons, Quebec	154
“ “ calling Emergency	152
Constitution, Amendment of	193
Committee, Executive, Elected ..	200
District Superintendents, Nomination of.....	200
“ “ Installation of.....	201
“ “ Reports of	179—191
Deaths, Record of	217
Expulsions	216
Emergency Convocation	143
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, REPORTS OF, ON—	
Warrants.....	198
Condition of Capitular Masonry.....	197
Audit and Finance.....	193
Grand Z's Address.....	196
Election of Executive Committee	200
“ of Officers.....	199 200

Finance and Audit, Report on	193
FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE—REPORT ON, (appendix).....	133
Commencement	133
Grand Chapters reviewed.....	133
Alabama	134
Arkansas	135
Colorado	137
Connecticut, (too late)	207
Deleware	139
District of Columbia.....	140
Georgia.....	147
Indiana.....	150
Iowa	152
Ireland	191
Kansas	157
Kentucky.....	158
Louisiana	158
Maine, (too late).....	207
Massachusetts.....	159
Michigan	170
Mississippi	173
Missouri	176
Nebraska, (too late)	207
New Hampshire.....	179
New Jersey.....	181
New Mexico	195
New York	182
Nova Scotia, (too late)	207
Ohio	207
South Carolina, (Coloured)	156
Pennsylvania	187
Texas	193
Tennessee	207
Virginia	207
West Virginia	195
Wisconsin	200
Table of Statistics ..	204
Conclusion	205
Grand Chapter Quebec recognized	159
“ “ Emergency, opened.....	145
“ “ opened	147 162
“ “ closed	166 202
“ “ next place of meeting	191
“ “ Grand Officers present ..	161
“ “ “ Members present ..	163—169
“ “ “ Representatives present	162
“ “ “ Officers elected	199 200
“ “ “ “ appointed	200
“ “ “ “ installed	201
“ “ “ “ list of	219
“ “ “ “ “ Committee, Executive	220
“ Chapters and Addresses of Grand Officers ..	223
Gouley, George Frank	199
In Memoriam, page	218

List of Grand Officers	219
“ “ Representatives	221
“ Returns of Subordinate Chapters	212—214
“ Suspensions	215
“ Restorations	216
“ Deaths	217
Minutes confirmed of last Convocation.....	169
“ “ Emergency Convocation	169
Memorial page	218
Minnewawa Chapter, Warrant granted	198
Notices of Motion.....	192
Notices to amend Constitution	202
Next place of holding Grand Chapter	199
Officers and Past Officers present in Grand Chapter.....	161 162 230
Orient Chapter, Warrant granted.....	198
Past First Principals.....	163
Quebec, Grand Chapter of	159
Rank and Titles of Officers.....	228
Recapitulation statement	204 214
Representatives present in Grand Chapter	221
Returns of Subordinate Chapters	212
Requisition to call Emergency	152

REPORTS OF—

Committee on Credentials	169
Grand Superintendents	179
London	179
Wilson	180
Huron	181
Hamilton	183
Toronto	184
Wellington	182
Ontario	188
New Brunswick	191
Central	190
Executive Committee on Warrants	198
“ “ Condition of Capitular Masonry	197
“ “ Audit and Finance	193
“ “ Grand Z's Address	196
Committee on Foreign Correspondence, appendix	133
“ “ “ presented	192
Proceedings to be printed	201

RESOLUTIONS :—

Grimsby Chapter, No. 69	199
Next place of Meeting of Grand Chapter, Hamilton.....	199
Thanks to Railway and Steamboat Companies	202
Thanks to Chapters	201
Adopted by Quebec R. A. Masons... ..	157

Returns of Subordinate Chapters	206	207	208
Restoration			216
St. Mark's Chapter, Warrant granted			198
Suspension, N. P. D			215
Synopsis of Returns to Grand Chapter			212
Tabular Statement	212	213	214
Testimonial to M. E. Comp. Henderson			201
Warrants, Report on			198



